INTERNATIONAL RESULTS AND TABLES

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CHAMPIONS' CUP FINAL

MARSEILLE TO MASTER MILAN

CUP-WINNERS' CUP FINAL

PARMA WEMBLEY WIZARDS

Spotlights:
Montero
Nadal
Ricardo
Hodgson
Kiriakov

Autoglass Trophy Competition

WIN A STEREO

Man to replace Bingham

Your chance to meet George Best

WORLD CUP AIR DISASTER
SPECIAL REPORT

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JUNE 1993 Vol.33 No.9

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Second chance . . . Abedi Pele was on the losing side with Marseille in 1991.

ty Plus

Second generation . . . Paolo Maldini is the son of a 1963 winner with Milan.

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Marseille V Milan

Champions' Cup Final May 26 in Munich

Preview by KEIR RADNEDGE

ABEDI PELE, Marseille's spectacular Ghanaian, believes the French champions really can achieve the upset of the season and topple hot favourites Milan in the Champions' Cup Final in Munich on May 26.

Milan won all their six matches in the qualifying Champions League and have only recently come off the end of an unbeaten run of 58 Italian League games spanning nearly two years.

They have been hailed far and wide as the finest team in the world — whether at national team or club level — and their methods, tactics and jewel-encrusted squad are the envy of everyone.

But Milan are vulnerable. Since Roma, in the Cup, and Parma, in the League, punctured their domestic aura of invincibility, Milan have looked anything but confident giants. Quite the reverse.

Marco Van Basten has only just returned to duty after being out injured since an ankle operation last December; fellow striker Jean-Pierre Papin, with a thigh injury, may not even be fit for Munich. The pressures of high-profile football hyperactivity have worn down even the house which Berlusconi built. But Pele, now 31, believes Marseille's shoot-out defeat in the 1991 Final by Red Star Belgrade will prove to be the key factor in springing an upset.

Pele says: "I'm delighted to be getting a second chance. Not many players get that. We learned a great deal as a team and as individuals from that first final. We are a much better team now and we are going into this final against Milan with so much confidence you would be surprised.

"Of course, Milan will start as everyone's favourites. But Milan have always had problems playing against us. We understand their game, we understand their mentality and their approach and we know how they play. Our chances really are that good."

Marseille beat Milan in the quarter-finals on their way to the 1991 Final and so upset the Italian champions that they tried to seek refuge in a last-minute floodlight failure to storm off the pitch. That behavioural blunder cost Milan a year's ban from European competition — but it illustrates Pele's point.

Papin admits that playing against Marseille is not exactly a dream final. He would have preferred Rangers as opposition.

Marseille, having sold Papin, Chris Waddle and Brazilian sweeper Carlos Mozer, looked seriously weakened early in this season. But German veteran Rudi Voller and Croatian striker Alen Boksic have provided Marseille with new thrust in attack while Basile Boli and Manuel Amoros remain among Europe's finest — and most ruthless — defenders.

When it comes to playing football out of defence, Milan have no peers. Franco Baresi and Paolo Maldini would stroll into any world select. In front of them Frank Rijkaard, Ruud Gullit, world record signing Gianluigi Lentini plus any mixture from Albertini, Simone, Massaro and Co. will scare the life out of anyone . . . except, obviously, Marseille.

Potentially, this could turn out to be a match quite the equal in quality of last year's in which Barcelona beat Sampdoria.

What is certain is an enormous amount of media hype — natural on the Italian side and equally predictable for Marseille, because it will centre on controversial millionaire president Bernard Tapie.

All the claims and counter-claims will be trotted out: that he picks the team and gives the half-time pep talks.

But if anyone and anything can find the key to unlock Milan it will not be Tapie and all his money but the remarkable 72-year-old who is now operating as Marseille's caretaker manager for the third time in as many seasons.

Raymond Goethals says he really is going after this Final. Nothing would give him more satisfaction than to hand out a tactical lesson to "young" Fabio Capello on the Milan bench.

Milan v Marseille is more than a football match; it's the Personality-Plus Final.

PREVIOUS CHAMPIONS' CUP FINALS

Year	Opponents	Res	Venue	Att
1956	Real Madrid v Stade de Reims	4-3	Paris	38,000
1957	Real Madrid v Fiorentina	2-0	Madrid	124,000
1958	Real Madrid v Milan	3-2 (aet)	Brussels	67,000
1959	Real Madrid v Stade de Reims	2-0	Stuttgart	80,000
1960	Real Madrid v Eintracht Frankfurt	7-3	Glasgow	127,621
1961	Benfica v Barcelona	3-2	Berne	33,000
1962	Benfica v Real Madrid	5-3	Amsterdam	68,000
1963	Milan v Benfica	2-1	Wembley	45,000
1964	Internazionale v Real Madrid	3-1	Vienna	72,000
1965	Internazionale v Benfica	1-0	Milan	80,000
1966	Real Madrid v Partizan Belgrade	2-1	Brussels	55,000
1967	Celtic v Internazionale	2-1	Lisbon	55,000
1968	Manchester United v Benfica	4-1 (aet)	Wembley	100,000
1969	Milan v Ajax	4-1	Madrid	50,000
1970	Feyenoord v Celtic	2-1 (aet)	Milan	53,187
1971	Ajax v Panatninaikos	2-0	Wembley	90,000
1972	Ajax v Internazionale	2-0	Rotterdam	61,000
1973	Ajax v Juventus	1-0	Belgrade	93,500
1974	Bayern Munich v Atletico Madrid	1-1 (aet)	Brussels	65,000
Replay	Bayern Munich v Atletico Madrid	4-0	Brussels	23,000
1975	Bayern Munich v Leeds United	2-0	Paris	48,000
1976	Bayern Munich v St Etienne	1-0	Glasgow	54,684
1977	Liverpool v Borussia Mg.	3-1	Rome	57,000
1978	Liverpool v Club Brugge	1-0	Wembley	92,000
1979	Nottm. Forest v Malmo	1-0	Munich	57,500
1980	Nottm. Forest v Hamburg SV	1-0	Madrid	51,000
1981	Liverpool v Real Madrid	1-0	Paris	48,360
1982	Aston Villa v Bayern Munich	1-0	Rotterdam	46,000
1983	Hamburg SV v Juventus	1-0	Athens	80,000
1984	Liverpool v AS Roma	1-1	Rome	69,693
1985	Juventus v Liverpool	1-0	Brussels	58,000
1986	Steaua Bucharest v Barcelona	0-0	Seville	70,000
		2-0 (pens)		
1987	FC Porto v Bayern Munich	2-1	Vienna	56,000
1988	PSV Eindhoven v Benfica	0-0	Stuttgart	55,000
		6-5 (pens)		
1989	Milan v Steaua Bucharest	4-0	Barcelona	97,000
1990	Milan v Benfica	1-0	Vienna	56,000
1991	Red Star Belgrade v Marseille	0-0	Bari	50,000
		4-3 (pens)		
1992	Barcelona v Sampdoria	1-0	Wembley	74,000

MARSEILLE SQUAD

PLAYER	P	Birth	Previous Clubs	Intl
Pascal OLMETA	G	07.04.61	Toulon Racing	
Fabien BARTHEZ	G	28.06.71	Toulouse	
Thomas VIDEAU	G	17.11.73		
Manuel AMOROS	D	01.02.62	Monaco	France
Bernard CASONI	D	04.09.61	Racing, Toulon	France
Eric DI MECO	D	07.09.63	Nancy, Martigues	France
Basile BOLI	D	02.01.67	Auxerre	France
Jean-Jacques EYDELIE	D	03.02.66	Tours, Nantes	
Jocelyn ANGLOMA	D	07.08.65	Lille, Paris SG	France
Jean-Christophe MARQUET	D	27.04.74		
Jean-Christophe THOMAS	M	16.10.64	Sochaux	
Jean-Philippe DURAND	M	11.11.60	Toulouse, Bordeaux	France
Didier DESCHAMPS	M	15.10.68	Nantes, Bordeaux	France
Franck SAUZEE	M	28.10.65	Sochaux, Monaco	France
Jean-Marc FERRERI	A	26.12.62	Bordeaux, Auxerre	France
Abedi Ayew PELE	A	05.01.62	Mulhouse, Lille	Ghana
Rudi VOLLER	A	13.04.60	Werder, Roma	Germany
Alen BOKSIC	A	21.01.70	Hajduk Split	Croatia
Igor DOBROVOLSKI	A	02.08.67	Castellon, Servette	USSR-CIS

MILAN SQUAD

PLAYER	P	Birth	Previous Clubs	Intl
Sebastiano ROSSI	G	20.07.64	Cesena	
Francesco ANTONIOLI	G	14.09.69	Cesena, Modena	
Carlos CUDICINI	G	06.09.73		
Franco BARESI	D	08.05.60		Italy
Alessandro COSTACURTA	D	24.04.66		Italy
Filippo GALLI	D	19.05.63	Pescara	
Enzo SAMBARO	D	23.03.66	Cesena, Parma	
Stefano NAVA	D	19.02.69	Reggiana, Parma	
Mauro TASSOTTI	D	19.01.60	Lazio	Italy
Paolo MALDINI	D	26.06.68		Italy
Demetrio ALBERTINI	M	23.08.71	Padova	Italy
Zvonimir BOBAN	M	06.10.68	Dinamo Zagreb, Bari	Croatia
Fernando DE NAPOLI	M	15.03.64	Avellino, Napoli	Italy
Roberto DONADONI	M	09.09.63	Atalanta	Italy
Stefano ERANIO	M	29.12.66	Genoa	Italy
Alberigo EVANI	M	01.01.63		Italy
Ruud GULLIT	M	01.09.62	Feyenoord, PSV	Holland
Frank RIJKAARD	M	30.09.62	Ajax, Zaragoza	Holland
Dejan SAVICEVIC	M	15.09.66	Buducnost, Red Star	Yugoslavia
Gianluigi LENTINI	A	27.03.69	Ancona, Torino	Italy
Daniele MASSARO	A	23.05.61	Fiorentina, Roma	
Jean-Pierre PAPIN	A	05.11.63	Brugge, Marseille	France
Aldo SERENA	A	25.06.60	Torino, Juventus, Inter	Italy
Marco SIMONE	A	07.01.69	Como	
Marco VAN BASTEN	A	31.10.64	Ajax	Holland

THE KEIR RADNEDGE COMMENTARY

Dopes haven't yet learned the lesson

FOOTBALL is getting itself in a mess over doping. Consider the recent cases involving not only high-profile Claudio Caniggia but Raimond Aumann, goalkeeper of Bayern Munich.

Football has never really taken doping seriously until recently. Now a common approach and common standards are needed to ensure not only that the sport remains as clean as it is, but that it is seen to be so.

Doping is not a new phenomenon. Readers of Danny Blanchflower's entertaining memoirs of the 1950s and early 1960s may well recall his tale of the chaos-ridden World Cup qualifying ties between Northern Ireland and Italy in 1957.

The original Belfast match had to be turned into a friendly at the last moment when the Hungarian referee was stranded in London because of fog. Not surprisingly, in the circumstances, the atmosphere was antagonistic.

In *The Double and Before* (Nicholas Kaye), Blanchflower recalls: "Schiaffino, that truly great South American inside-forward, flung himself brutally and deliberately into little Wilbur Cush. It seemed so much out of character with the beautiful style of his play.

"There was a vacant expression in his eyes when the referee cautioned him. 'Do you think he's drugged?' Jimmy McIlroy asked me."

Six years later, Italy again. This time Bologna very nearly lost the championship when half a dozen players apparently tested positive after a game . . . only for the back-up systems to prove so totally inadequate that all charges were dropped, and Bologna went on to beat Internazionale in a title play-off.

For many years East Germany was held up as proof that doping in football was at best impossible, at least pointless. The East German sports physicians, with methods now well-documented, stimulated their athletes to go faster, higher, better with the sort of medical preparations which earned Ben Johnson notoriety.

But nobody has yet devised a potion or a pill which can make a player pass more intelligently or shoot more accurately.

In the autumn of 1990 Roma goalkeeper Angelo Peruzzi and striker Andrea Carnevale tested positive after using a drug designed — and used — to control weight.

Last year Stuttgart coach Christoph Daum said his club had used steroid-similar medication to help players recover all the faster from injury. These were apparently "innocent" use offences in that they assisted preparation without influencing performance. But no sport can allow grey areas.

Peruzzi and Carnevale were both banned for a year, while Stuttgart's admission prompted the German Federation to introduce a tough new system of dope control in the Bundesliga.

The commonest forms of dope used in football are stimulants which increase the aggression level of a player. Names we cannot provide for legal reasons. But a number of countries utilise inadequate control systems which almost encourage the use of such drugs.

Take the situation in Portugal, where dope control enforcement is almost impossible given the power vacuum within the game. Dope testing checks can be carried out at any match. But . . . the host club has the option of demanding dope tests or not AND the host club must also foot the bill.

The next stage is obvious: the Big Three, Benfica, Porto and Sporting and maybe a few more, will always pay up for dope controls at their home matches. But when they go away they know they run the risk of facing opponents psyched up in more ways than one.

Portugal is not the only country where inadequate controls can be sidestepped. But, at the least, Portugal does possess a control system of sorts.

So, of course, does Italy. That's how Diego Maradona was caught for cocaine two years ago. That's how fellow Argentine Caniggia was also caught for cocaine. Maradona was banned for 15 months by the Italian Federation and the punishment was extended worldwide by FIFA. It says something very obvious about Caniggia that he ignored the lesson of the Maradona case.

That he should have been banned for only 13 months was remarkable. The rest of international sport is moving, slowly but steadily, towards heavier punishments for drugs offences.

Yet, here in Italy, the trend was heading in the opposite direction. Very odd. Maradona, never slow to open his mouth and put both boots in it, claimed that catching Caniggia was part of an Italian vendetta against Argentine football, because Argentina beat hosts Italy in the 1990 World Cup semi-final.

Maradona claimed he had been singled out first because he had been captain and leader; Caniggia had followed because he scored the equalising goal which sent the semi-final in question in to to extra-time and a penalty shoot-out.

It has to be said that Argentine and African football are diminished by the regular displays of chips on shoulders. Look at the basic facts of Caniggia's punishment and it is clear that, quite the reverse of Maradona's allegation, the punishment was extremely lenient.

Caniggia hardly could have complained if he had received the same punishment as Maradona or even a heavier one.

He was let off, in effect, with just enough time to find his way back into Argentina's World Cup sqiad (assuming they qualify for next year's extravaganza in the United States).

That is no vendetta; that is very close to favouritism. Cocaine is not a stimulant; it is a "social" drug. But it is a drug. And football, with its hero-seeking audience, must be a drug-free zone.

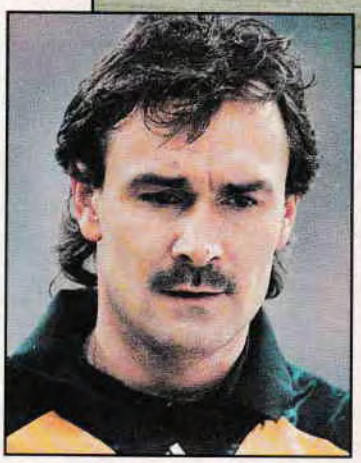
The Germans have got the message. Before the Match of the Season between Werder Bremen and Bayern Munich, the Bayern medical staff took the precaution of checking with the DFB on the status of a painkiller taken by keeper Aumann to ease the pain from a wisdom tooth.

At first the DFB said he could not play in the game. Later, on production of a medical certificate, he was given the all-clear. Ironically, toothache ultimately forced Aumann to pull out at the last minute and Bremen fired four decisive goals past inexperienced deputy Uwe Gospodarek.

But top marks to Bayern for checking and top marks to the DFB for the responsible caution exhibited.

In the light of increasing concern about drugs in sport, other federations — and confederations — may wish to follow suit.

FIFA could prescribe varying systems appropriate to the financial and competitive levels of the worldwide membership. It's not as if the worldwide game does not have the money.



Busted . . . Caniggia (above) and Maradona (right).

Rested . . . Aumann (below).

Inspired . . . Clough, with Taylor (right), at the 1979 Champions' Cup Final.

Thanks for the memories

IT WAS, one day, inevitable. He would have to call it a day. Not even the most idiosyncratic of football managers can last for ever.

No matter how fascinating his views, no matter how many European and national titles he has achieved, no matter the legendary status attained through high-profile success.

One day the curtain had to fall. Thus, after the Champions' Cup Final in Munich, Raymond Goethals will call it a day. Of course, he is not the only managerial retirement in prospect.

There is also that of Brian Clough from Nottingham Forest — though, from the media reaction, a stranger in town might have thought he had died, so solemn were the "obituaries."

Clough was a giant of a personality within English football and will remain so. Television channels and the popular press doubtless will wave their cheque books in his direction as never before.

Interestingly, Clough owed his high profile to the very English nature of the dramas and controversies surrounding him. He has remained virtually unknown abroad despite those two Champions' Cup victories with Nottingham Forest.

All that would have changed, of course, had he been appointed manager of England in the wake of Don Revie's defection in 1977. But nobody ever seriously believed the FA would dare give such a charismatic free spirit the responsibility.

I happen to be one of those who believe Clough would, then, have been ideal. To me, a national manager must rely heavily on motivation. He cannot work deeply enough or long enough with his players to refine tactics and mould styles.

He must provide inspiration through personal magnetism. And that Clough, at his peak, possessed beyond measure.

So what has happened this past season? Clough had long since lost the guiding wisdom of Peter Taylor for transfers; and Des Walker was not replaced, last summer, in the centre of defence.

But I see Forest — and, thus, Clough — as victims of the change in the backpass law. Forest always have built their game steadily and carefully from the back. Until last autumn their comparatively technically limited defenders could knock the ball back to the goalkeeper when under pressure.

This season, however, that bolt-hole had been closed. Perhaps Forest should have changed their tactics; built from a five-man midfield rather than a four-man back row. They didn't. The rest you know.

Not so super for Johansson

UEFA president Lennart Johansson has stepped back from the brink. In the face of hostile reaction from Italy, France and Germany he withdrew his proposals for a European Superleague created by merging the Champions' Cup and the UEFA Cup.

A central plank in their opposition was the fear that such a competition, not dependent on winning the national championship, would reduce the importance of the domestic league title.

But, interestingly, nobody attacked the "pure" concept of a European league in itself which must encourage the "European league" working party to continue their studies to keep UEFA's nose ahead of the big clubs.

And more and more of those clubs are very big, not merely through their own achievement but through the power of their corporate parents.

Look at the club semi-finals in Europe this season for evidence.

In the Champions League Milan (controlled by media magnate Silvio Berlusconi) will play the Final against a Marseille club controlled by controversial entrepreneur Bernard Tapie.

In the Cup-winners' Cup, Italy's Parma (backed by the Parmalat foods group) approach a first European final appearance.

In the UEFA Cup, Paris Saint-Germain (controlled by the French TV network, Canal+) failed only narrowly to score a semi-final victory over Juventus (owned by FIAT).

Are the days of the "independent" club numbered. Michel Platini, one-time inspiration of Juventus and France, says: "Mixing the worlds of industry and football opens up the game to new perspectives and people with fresh ideas.

"Football should be run by men with proven business success instead of depending on financial hand-outs from the same old sources."

Backed . . . Melli of Parma, sponsored by Parmalat, takes on Solozabal of Atletico Madrid.

REVIEW CORNER

Various books of note in the shops

☆ *Bobby Moore: The Life and Times of a Sporting Hero*. By Jeff Powell, Robson Books (5-6 Clipstone Street, London W1P 7EB), at £16.95. A superb tribute to a great player from a great friend.

☆ *Football in the Former Soviet Republics*. By Marcus Luik (Estonian Football Statisticians, PO Box 922, Tallinn EE 0034, Estonia). A unique statistical record of a historic year of football freedom.

☆ *Guinness Fodbold 1992*. By Frits Ahlstrom (Guinness Superlatives, Copenhagen). You do not need to be fluent in Danish to follow a largely statistical volume detailing a wonderful year for Denmark.

☆ *Il Calcio Sammarinese*. By Marco Zunino (Litografia Studiostampa, Galazzano, Republic of San Marino). Remarkable illustrated history of San Marino football with full statistics.

☆ *Fuji Encyklopedia Piłkarska 1991 (Official Polish Yearbook)*. ABC Data, Walicow 13, 00-865 Warsaw. A six-volume statistical history of Polish football.

Markovic takes up the greatest challenge

VLATKO MARKOVIC has been appointed to the most fraught managerial role in world football.

When Brazil lose a big match, effigies of the manager are hanged and torched in the streets of Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo; when Italy lose a big game the coach is pelted with ripe tomatoes; when England lose a big match, the manager suffers trial by tabloid and is condemned to the vegetable patch.

But such problems and pressure pale into insignificance compared with those of Markovic as he becomes national manager of Croatia.

The usual sporting cliches — about fighting, battling, struggling — dare not be applied to the team he will send out first in friendly matches then, perhaps, in the next European Championship.

Croatia is much too close to the real firing lines within what was once Yugoslavia.

The Croatian team already have played several games. The most recent was a fortnight ago, against Kashima Antlers of Japan. Antlers, led by Brazilian veteran Zico, will provide Gary Lineker with his first competitive opposition in the J-League later this month.

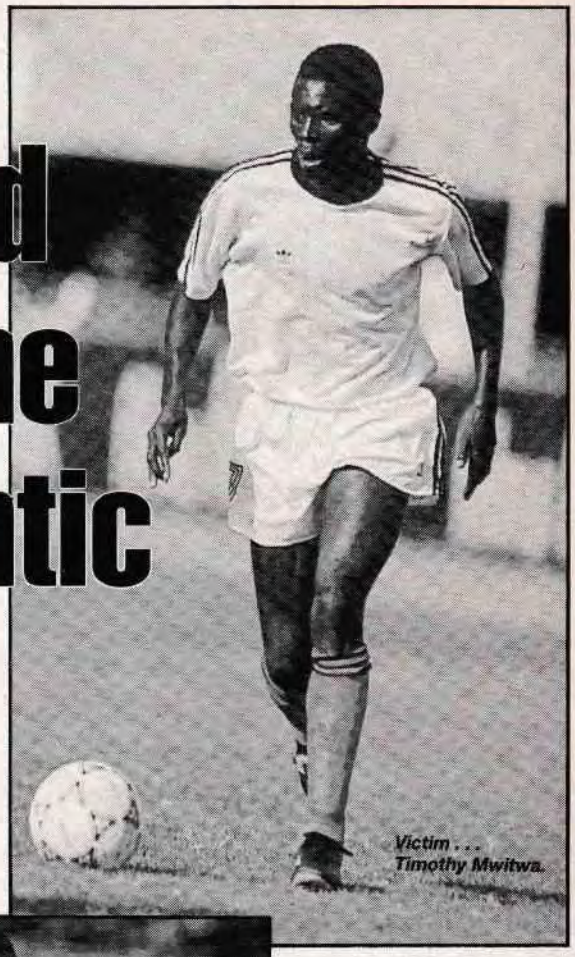
Playing in Udine, Italy, they provided little resistance to Croatia, losing 8-1. Davor Suker, the Croat centre-forward who plays alongside Diego Maradona at Spain's Sevilla, scored four goals. Milan's Zvonimir Boban scored two.

Boban says: "Every player wants to play for his country. People may think it strange for us, when there is all the fighting. But one day there must be peace. Perhaps our contribution is that, by playing football, we can provide a little hope."

WORLD CUP TRAGEDY

18 players killed as Zambia's plane crashes in Atlantic

But survivors may play on



Victim . . . Timothy Mwitwa.

TRAGEDY struck the World Cup, African sport and — most particularly — Zambia when the aircraft carrying the country's World Cup squad crashed into the Atlantic.

BY MARK **GLEESON**

All 30 people on board, including 18 players and five officials, were killed.

Despite the disaster, however, early signs were that Zambia intended to continue in their attempt to reach the World Cup finals for the first time — as a tribute to the players who died when the plane crashed soon after take-off from Libreville, Gabon.

Several of Zambia's top players were not on the plane. Those "survivors" included captain Kalusha Bwalya, whose contract with Dutch champions PSV Eindhoven runs out at the end of the season.

Bwalya, who scored a hat-trick against Italy at the 1988 Olympics in Seoul, had not been needed for the previous weekend's 3-0 win over Mauritius in Port Louis and had elected to make his own way to Dakar to join his team-mates for the World Cup tie against Senegal.

Two other European-based professionals, midfielder Charles Musonda and striker Johnstone Bwalya, also were planning to travel separately.

Musonda is on the books of newly-crowned Belgian champions Anderlecht and played for the club in the 1990 Cup-winners' Cup, while Bwalya is with Swiss club FC Bulle. Two other Belgian-based players, who had not been selected for World Cup duty, were Kalusha's younger brother Joe, who plays for Cercle Bruges, and midfielder Stone Nyirenda.

Others playing abroad include Gibby Mbasela, who had been playing for Union Berlin in the German Third Division, Beston Chambesi and Kenneth Malitoli, who are contracted to clubs in Tunisia where Malitoli is the league's leading scorer.

Several professionals based in South Africa include winger Albert Bwalya, central defender Henry Malambo and goalkeeper Shadrack Biema.

Eleven footballers who played some part in Zambia's five previous World Cup qualifiers were not on the plane, including Harrison Chongo, Tenant Chilumba, Kapambuse Mulenga, Francis Chisenga, Nicholas Bwalya and veteran Peter Mwanza.

Zambia are paired with Senegal and Morocco in their final qualifying group. The winners go to the finals in the United States. In the African Nations' Cup, Zambia are due to play further qualifiers against South Africa and Zimbabwe in July.

The tragedy occurred on the morning of April 28 when a Zambian Air Force Buffalo CT15, carrying the team to Senegal, plunged into the sea shortly after taking off from Libreville following a refuelling stop. Engine failure was suspected as the cause.

In Lusaka, capital of Zambia, state radio played sombre music between news updates on the aftermath of the crash and people wept openly on the streets. The 18 players were accompanied by five FA of Zambia officials, including chairman Michael Mwape as well as five crew members and the deputy news editor of the state-run Zambian News Agency.

Grief was tinged with bitterness that Zambian officials took so long to announce the news. State radio and television reported the deaths on Wednesday evening, eight hours after the plane went down, and long after reports had begun to circulate in Europe.

Victim . . . Samuel Chomba.

Justin Makinka, uncle of Derby Makinka, one of the victims, said: "We are angry with the government for not informing us personally."

Makinka played for the Al Ittifaq team in Saudi Arabia. He and his team-mates were reported to have been in jubilant mood as they boarded the plane after winning 3-0 in Port Louis, Mauritius, in the African Nations' Cup.

State President Frederick Chiluba, who returned home early from a visit to Uganda, said: "I am stunned and shattered by this national tragedy. Fate has robbed our country of its finest football heroes."

Youth and Sports Minister Dipak Patel said: "We have lost a whole generation of footballers just when we had a close chance of going to the World Cup."

The Zambian Congress of Trade Unions cancelled plans for May Day celebrations. Secretary-general Alec Chirwa said: "We cannot afford to celebrate at a time when we have lost these great heroes."

National Sports Council chairman Tom Mtine said: "I know this country has had its tragedies but this one tops the list."

The government of Gabon ordered an inquiry to determine the cause of the accident.

Transport Minister Jerome Ngoua Dekale said experts from Gabon and Zambia and the aircraft's Canadian manufacturer would take part.

He added that the aircraft had made a normal two-hour stopover to refuel, and that no problems had been noted on take-off.

But a few minutes later the captain failed to respond to calls from air traffic control and emergency services were alerted.

Victim . . . Eston Mulenga.

Escape . . . Kalusha Bwalya.

THE VICTIMS

PLAYERS: Efford Chbala (Mufulira Wanderers), John Soko (Nkana Red Devils), Whiteson Changwe (Kabwe Warriors), Samuel Chomba (Dynamos, South Africa), Eston Mulenga (Nkana Red Devils), Robert Watiyakeni (Dynamos, South Africa), Derby Mankinka (Al Ittifaq, Saudi Arabia), Kelvin Mutale (Al Ittifaq, Saudi Arabia), Moses Chikwalakwala (Chambishi), Timothy Mwitwa (Nkana Red Devils), Moses Masuwa (Kabwe Warriors), Godfrey Kangwa (Olympic Casablanca, Morocco), Patrick Banda (Profund United), Numba Mwila (Nkana Red Devils), Wisdom Chansa (Dynamos, South Africa), Kenan Simambe (Nkana Red Devils).

OFFICIALS: Wilson Mtonga (team doctor), Godfrey Chitalu (acting team manager), Alex Chola (assistant coach), Michael Mware (FA of Zambia chairman).

THE SURVIVORS

National players NOT aboard the aircraft included: Kalusha Bwalya (PSV Eindhoven, Holland), Johnson Bwalya (FC Bulle, Switzerland), Charles Musonda (Anderlecht, Belgium), Kenneth Malitoli (Esperance, Tunisia) and Gibby Mbasela (foreign-based professional currently without a contract).

1994 WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS

AFRICA

First Round
GROUP H

11.01.92	Madagascar v Namibia	3-0
25.10.92	Namibia v Zambia	0-4
20.12.92	Madagascar v Zambia	2-0
17.01.93	Namibia v Madagascar	0-1
30.01.93	Zambia v Namibia	4-0
27.02.93	Zambia v Madagascar	3-1

★ *Burkina Faso withdrew and were replaced by Namibia. Tanzania also withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
ZAMBIA	4	3	0	1	1*	3	6
Madagascar	4	3	0	1	7	3	6
Namibia	4	0	0	4	0	*2	0

Second Round
GROUP B

18.04.93	Morocco v Senegal	1-0
02.05.93	Senegal v Zambia	
04.07.93	Zambia v Morocco	
17.07.93	Senegal v Morocco	
26.09.93	Zambia v Senegal	
10.10.93	Morocco v Zambia	

1994 AFRICAN NATIONS' CUP

GROUP 5
(Winners qualify)

16.08.92	Zambia v Mauritius	2-1
16.08.92	Zimbabwe v South Africa	4-1
30.08.92	Mauritius v Zimbabwe	0-1
30.08.92	South Africa v Zambia	0-1
10.04.93	South Africa v Mauritius	0-0
10.04.93	Zambia v Zimbabwe	0-0
24.04.93	South Africa v Zimbabwe	1-1
25.04.93	Mauritius v Zambia	0-3
11.07.93	Zimbabwe v Mauritius	
11.07.93	Zambia v South Africa	
25.07.93	Zimbabwe v Zambia	
25.07.93	Mauritius v South Africa	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Zambia	4	3	1	0	6	1	7
Zimbabwe	4	2	2	0	6	2	6
South Africa	4	0	2	2	2	6	2
Mauritius	4	0	1	3	1	6	1

FOOTBALL AIR CRASHES

1989 ...14 Dutch-based Surinamese players are killed when a DC-8 taking them to Surinam on an end-of-season tour crashes at Paramaribo airport. The overall crash toll is 174.

1987 ...20 players of Peruvian club Alianza of Lima die when their flight crashes into the Pacific on the way back to the capital from a championship match in Pacullpa.

1979 ...17 players of Soviet First Division side Pakhtakor Tashkent are killed in a domestic plane crash.

1969 ...25 die as the first-team squad of Bolivian champions, The Strongest, are killed in an air crash in the Andes.

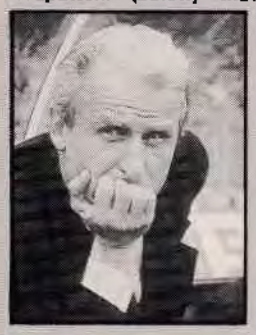
1961 ...24 members of the Green Cross club die in Chile on a flight to the Chilean Cup play-offs.

1958 ...Eight players of Manchester United, three officials and eight journalists are among the 22 deaths at Munich (right) after a refuelling stop on their way home from a Champions' Cup semi-final in Belgrade.

1949 ...18 players of Italian champions Torino are killed when their aircraft crashes into the Superga Basilica outside Turin on their return from a benefit match against Benfica in Lisbon.

Trapattoni's warning

JUVENTUS coach Giovanni Trapattoni has warned that his current squad represent the club's "last chance" of glory. Juventus directors have told Trapattoni (below) that no more multi-million purchases, such as those of Roberto Baggio and Gianluca Vialli, are possible. Juventus have two chances of returning to the UEFA Cup next season — either finishing high enough in the Italian League or winning this season's two-leg final against Borussia Dortmund.



● ***European club semi-final details on page 58.***

Caniggia appeals

ROMA'S Argentine World Cup forward, Claudio Caniggia (above), has appealed against a 13-month suspension imposed after he tested positive for cocaine after a game against Napoli.

Norwegian delight

NORWAY'S prospects of reaching the World Cup finals further improved when they beat Turkey 3-1 while their group two rivals, England and Holland, drew 2-2 at Wembley.

Kjetil Rekdal (right) was among the scorers in Oslo.

Championship contest comes alive

IN the long run, Milan's 3-1 home defeat by Juventus on the Saturday after Easter may not change the destiny of the 1993 Italian championship, but it did at least breathe badly needed life back into a contest that has suffered from Milan dominance all season long.

Coming at the end of a month in which Milan's two-season-long unbeaten league run was finally ended by a 1-0 home loss to Parma and in which the side were eliminated from the Italian Cup by the mercurial, crisis ridden AS Roma, that defeat by Juventus at least gave second-placed Internazionale some semblance of hope.

The Milan "crisis", of course, is a highly relative affair. Even before they defeated Dutch side PSV Eindhoven 2-0 to make it ten wins in ten Champions' Cup games this season, they had already qualified for the Champions' Cup final in Munich. Which was not bad for a start.

Nonetheless, the fact that in six games between the middle of March and the end of April, Milan dropped six points to their closest rivals, transforming an untouchable lead of 11 points into a touchable five, undoubtedly set the alarm bells ringing at Milanello.

It also sent the sports hacks scurrying through the record books to recall the 1972-73 season when Milan, no less, had thrown away a five-point lead in their last six games to lose the title on the final day to Juventus.

Ironically, a key figure in that Juventus side was the present Milan coach, Fabio Capello.

He should know about "slips between cup and lip", concluded the media.

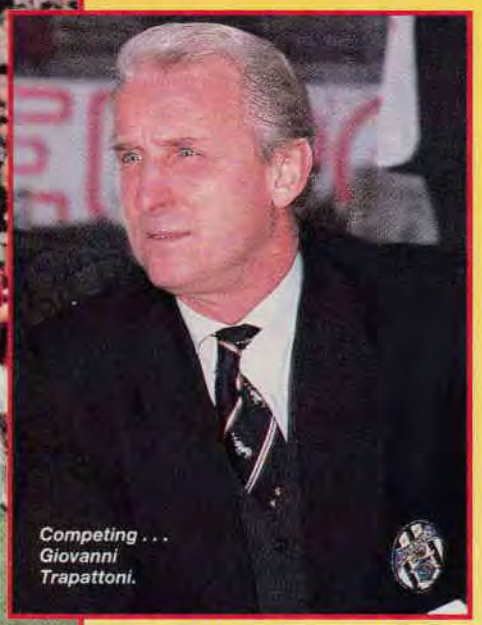
Realistically, Capello also knows that two factors created the unexpected crisis at Milan.

Firstly, Inter began to play out of their skin, so much so that they have not yet lost a 1993 League game — their last defeat was 3-1 to Lazio in Rome on December 13.

Secondly, Milan began to suffer from the twin burdens of key injuries and exhaustion, an exhaustion which Capello believed to be more mental than physical.

Injury or suspension deprived Milan of Van Basten, Rijkaard, Savicevic, Tassotti, Donadoni, Albertini, Rossi, Evani and more recently Papin and Simone.

Creaking . . . Paolo Maldini, Ruud Gullit and Frank Rijkaard are at full stretch to stop Dino Baggio during Milan's 3-1 defeat by Juventus at San Siro (above).
Creeping . . . Inter's players, who have not lost a League game this year, celebrate another goal by Ruben Sosa, this time against Brescia, in their dogged pursuit of Milan (below).



Competing . . . Giovanni Trapattoni.

One had thought, however, that Milan's 24-man squad and "turnover" system were meant to deal with precisely such a crisis.

This was a question *WORLD SOCCER* put to Capello on a recent visit to Milanello.

"No, no, the turnover idea has worked well," Capello said. "At the beginning of the season, we changed the side from match to match, and not because of injuries or suspension, but the team kept on winning.

"What has happened to us, now in the spring when we have our busiest period, is that the turnover system cannot work because we've had too many players out with injuries."

Having held Inter to a 1-1 draw in their derby clash on Easter Saturday, Capello probably felt the worst was over and that he could cruise downhill from then on.

However, in the very next game up popped Juventus and Roberto Baggio to at last play like a good team.

Throughout all the media fuss about a possible fightback, however, one man remained sceptical — Inter's coach, Osvaldo Bagnoli, who said: "Certainly, in their last five or six games, Milan have not been the all-dominant side of earlier in the season . . . but logic says that the title is already theirs."

It could well turn out that the 3-1 result meant more to Juventus, than Milan.

Juve, long out of the championship contest and dismissed from the Italian Cup by city rivals, Torino, approached April knowing that only qualification for the UEFA Cup final at the expense of Paris Saint-Germain would save an otherwise disappointing season.

Juventus did that and more, recording league wins against Torino (sweet revenge) and against Milan.

The latter victory, coming on the weekend before they reached the UEFA Cup Final, suggested that finally they had refound that section of their anatomy that has seemed missing for most of this season — a backbone.

Juventus have found form in the nick of time. The "Old Lady" of Italian soccer badly needed to do something that would justify an outlay of $40 million last summer to buy such as Gianluca Vialli, Fabrizio Ravanelli, David Platt and Andy Moller.

Worse still for Juventus is the consideration that the club's owner, automobile giant FIAT, for a variety of political reasons, will not be in a position to spend so heavily on the transfer market this summer.

Recession in the car industry — a 22 per cent drop in sales in the first three months of 1993 — the subsequent need for further FIAT redundancies and the company's embarrassingly comprehensive involvement in the systematic payments of bribes, within the ambit of the "Tangentopoli" scandal, mean that Juventus will be denied serious spending power this summer.

None of which is lost on Juventus coach Giovanni Trapattoni, who, fortunately in the circumstances, believes that he already has the bones of a championship-winning side — for next year.

At the Juventus training ground of Orbassano last month, he offered *WORLD SOCCER* this assessment of the current side: "This Juventus is a building site. The 'palazzo' has not been completed yet, but with players like the two Baggios (Roberto and Dino), Kohler, Moller, Platt, Vialli and Casiraghi, this Juventus ought to be able to compete for all trophies."

Starting with the UEFA Cup this month, of course.

PADDY **AGNEW**

Crippling . . . injuries and fatigue have taken their toll on Fabio Capello's side.

RESULTS

SERIE A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Milan	29	17	10	2	58	27	44
Internazionale	29	15	10	4	52	32	40
Lazio	29	11	12	6	55	40	34
Juventus	29	13	8	8	48	36	34
Parma	29	14	6	9	40	30	34
Sampdoria	29	12	9	8	45	40	33
Torino	29	8	15	6	31	24	31
Atalanta	29	12	7	10	35	37	31
Cagliari	29	12	6	11	33	30	30
Roma	29	8	13	8	33	29	29
Napoli	29	10	9	10	42	39	29
Foggia	29	9	10	10	32	43	28
Fiorentina	29	7	11	11	42	48	25
Genoa	29	6	13	10	33	48	25
Udinese	29	9	6	14	34	42	24
Brescia	29	6	10	13	26	40	22
Ancona	29	5	7	17	33	58	17
Pescara	29	4	4	21	35	64	12

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 4

MIDWEEK

CUP — SEMI-FINALS, 2ND LEG

MILAN 1 (Eranio 38)
ROMA 0.
Att: 49,786.
Roma won 2-1 on agg.

JUVENTUS 2 (Marchegiani 5 o.g., Ravanelli 62)
TORINO 2 (Poggi 52, Aguilera 63).
Att: 45,000.
Agg: 3-3, Torino won on away goals.

WEEKEND

BRESCIA 1 (M. Rossi 46)
ANCONA 1 (Bruniera 87). **Att:** 8,000.

CAGLIARI 3 (Pusceddu 8, 66, Caricola 39 o.g)
GENOA 0. **Att:** 20,000.

FOGGIA 1 (Kolyvanov 88 pen)
ATALANTA 0. **Att:** 12,000.

MILAN 2 (Lentini 57, 63)
NAPOLI 2 (Careca 34, Policano 45). **Att:** 76,000.

PARMA 2 (Matrecano 3, Brolin 45)
PESCARA 0. **Att:** 14,000.

AS ROMA 1 (Rizzitelli 6)
FIORENTINA 1 (Laudrup 12). **Att:** 51,000.

INTER 3 (Schillaci 1, 21, Berti 68)
SAMPDORIA 1 (Jugovic 75). **Att:** 30,000.

TORINO 1 (Scifo 86)
LAZIO 1 (Winter 55). **Att:** 20,000.

UDINESE 0
JUVENTUS 0. **Att:** 25,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 11

WEEKEND

ANCONA 1 (Lupo 64)
AS ROMA 1 (Giannini 61 pen). **Att:** 13,000.

ATALANTA 2 (Minaudo 73, Ganz 74)
PESCARA 1 (Allegri 16). **Att:** 14,000.

FIORENTINA 2 (Laudrup 37, Batistuta 53)
BRESCIA 2 (Hagi 69 pen, Raducioiu 71). **Att:** 32,000.

GENOA 1 (Branco 13)
UDINESE 0. **Att:** 25,000.

INTER 1 (Berti 44)
MILAN 1 (Gullit 83). **Att:** 75,000.

JUVENTUS 2 (Conte 9, 81)
TORINO 1 (Aguilera 29). **Att:** 47,000.

LAZIO 1 (Riedle 28)
FOGGIA 1 (De Vincenzo 56). **Att:** 47,000.

NAPOLI 1 (Zola 14)
SAMPDORIA 1 (Lombardo 27). **Att:** 64,000.

PARMA 3 (Fricano 15 o.g., Minotti 38, Asprilla 56)
CAGLIARI 1 (Herrera 22). **Att:** 25,000.

Brescia's Domini challenges Inter's Berti (below right).

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 18

WEEKEND

MILAN 1 (Simone 6)
JUVENTUS 3 (Moller 13, 20, R. Baggio 64). **Att:** 81,000.

SAMPDORIA 2 (R. Mancini 30 pen, Lombardo 52)
PARMA 1 (Pizzi 88). **Att:** 28,000.

BRESCIA 1 (Sabau 53)
INTER 3 (Sosa 56, 60, Schillaci 81). **Att:** 21,000.

CAGLIARI 3 (Oliveira 25, Fricano 46, Moriero 79)
ANCONA 0. **Att:** 20,000.

FIORENTINA 1 (Batistuta 86)
NAPOLI 1 (Fonseca 25). **Att:** 34,000.

PESCARA 2 (Allegri 84, Bivi 89)
FOGGIA 4 (Nobile 21 o.g, Sciacca 28, Roy 53, P. Bresciani 82). **Att:** 18,000.

ROMA 0
LAZIO 0. **Att:** 75,000.

TORINO 1 (Scifo 59)
GENOA 1 (S. Fortunato 62). **Att:** 22,000.

UDINESE 1 (Balbo 30)
ATALANTA 2 (Rambaudi 14, Alemao 80). **Att:** 15,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 25

WEEKEND

INTER 3 (Bergomi 9, Sosa 28, 55)
ANCONA 0. **Att:** 30,000.

GENOA 1 (Skuhravy 48)
BRESCIA 1 (Sabau 5). **Att:** 25,000.

NAPOLI 1 (Zola 88)
CAGLIARI 0. **Att:** 50,000.

JUVENTUS 3 (Marocchi 80, Ravanelli 79, R. Baggio pen 90)
FIORENTINA 0. **Att:** 40,000.

UDINESE 0
MILAN 0. **Att:** 40,000.

LAZIO 2 (Favalli 24, Signori pen 90)
PESCARA 1 (Allegri pen 42). **Att:** 50,000.

PARMA 3 (Osio 4, 76, Pizzi pen 14)
ROMA 1 (Aldair 73). **Att:** 22,000.

ATALANTA 1 (Minaudi 81)
SAMPDORIA 2 (Lombardo 33, Bertorelli 87). **Att:** 25,000.

FOGGIA 0
TORINO 0. **Att:** 15,000.

LIGHT ON SPORT

PAOLO MONTERO

Another Passarella in the making

Honour . . . Paolo Montero (left) has been compared with former Argentina captain Daniel Passarella (above).

ATALANTA have put their hopes for a successful future on their acclaimed youth policy, but while the club's minors look forward to their Youth Cup Final, Atalanta's officials can take pride in one inspired signing.

Claudio Caniggia's sale to Roma, in addition to Glenn Stromberg's retirement, left a void many believed would be impossible to fill. But Paolo Montero's impact since his arrival from Penarol a year ago has compelled the reserved citizens of Bergamo to sit up and take note.

At 21, sweeper Montero is rapidly carving a name for himself.

Atalanta's fans first saw Montero in May last year, when he replaced local hero Stromberg in a triangular tournament also featuring Juventus and Borussia Dortmund and held in honour of the late Cesare Bortolotti, the club's former president, and as a tribute to Stromberg, one of Atalanta's finest servants.

The Swede's swan-song overshadowed Montero's debut. The fans barely noticed when he went on.

As Stromberg handed his blue and black shirt to Cesare Bortolotti's father, Edoardo, the touching moment was met with a rapturous ovation.

Such applause was soon directed at Montero as he began to exhibit the class and elegance which had earned him a comparison with the former captain of Argentina, Daniel Passarella.

"I was very nervous before that game,"says Montero. "I knew I had to show the fans something special, especially in replacing Stromberg, and all went very well.

"The thing that pleased me the most, apart from the response from the spectators, were the compliments from my team-mates."

Those compliments quickly descended from all over Italy. Montero's ability on the ball has enabled coach Marcello Lippi to convert him from a central defender to sweeper, a transition to which he has adapted with relative ease.

"It wasn't that difficult," he says. "I've followed Lippi's instructions and have learned by watching other sweepers, such as Julio Cesar and Franco Baresi. You can always learn from great players."

Paolo Montero Iglesias was born on September 3, 1971, in Montevideo. By the time he reached 17, he was a six-footer and had featured in Penarol's first team. He was launched by the man who led Argentina to their first World Cup triumph in 1978, Cesar Luis Menotti.

"I used to play at left-back, which was natural considering I'm left-footed — my right is only useful for walking," says Montero.

"When Menotti arrived at Penarol he immediately asked me to train with the first team and moved me to the centre of defence."

"He gave me precious advice and taught me so much. I can't forget that he was the one who gave me a start and made me believe in my ability."

Montero has never been short of support, and his list of protectors include his father, Luis Castillo Montero, once the mainstay of Uruguay's midfield and a veteran of two World Cups.

Luis won everything at club level with Nacional in the 1960s and 70s. So his son's decision to join rivals Penarol came as something of a surprise.

"It wasn't a difficult decision," says Paolo. "I've always been a Penarol fan despite my father's allegiance to Nacional. Although I have always had a name to live up to, I've wanted to be myself — without being conditioned."

Montero senior granted his son the freedom he desired, and seldom watched him play even though Paolo represented his country at Under-21 level and impressed during the South American pre-Olympic tournament despite Uruguay's failure to qualify for Barcelona.

Two years with Penarol's first team concluded with a £500,000 transfer to Italy, and Atalanta left him to "mature" for an extra term. His one regret is failing to win a major honour with Penarol.

Montero became the 58th Uruguayan to play in Italy but only the third recruited since the embargo on foreigners was lifted in 1980.

He joins illustrious names such as Enzo Francescoli, Carlos Aguilera and Juan Schiaffino, who helped Uruguay to win the World Cup in 1950 and represented the Italian national team four times between 1954 and 1958.

Montero arrived in Bergamo in April 1992 accompanied by his parents, brother and younger sister. He cites shyness as his major flaw, hence the importance he placed on relocating with his family.

"I miss everything about Uruguay — my relatives, friends and my neighbourhood," he says.

"It's only natural. I'm happy my family are in Bergamo with me. it makes me feel more at home — it's a very important period in my life.

"My father has always told me that it's easy to become successful, but it's much harder to stay at the top. A young player needs discipline."

Montero's conduct on the field was often under close scrutiny during his youth days, when he collected a total of seven red cards, mainly for professional fouls. In Italy, home of arguably the sternest referees in European football, he has been sent off twice, and appreciates the urgency of adjusting to a different mentality.

"I'm changing," he says. "I've only been here a short time. I need more experience in order to fulfil my promise. In Italy you need to concentrate fully from the first minute of a match to the last. I wasn't used to it, but I believe I've improved."

Montero also has managed to get his name on the scoresheet in Serie A. He hopes his continued progress will prompt Uruguay's national coach, Luis Cubilla, to select him for the forthcoming Copa America and 1994 World Cup qualifiers.

"I hope he hasn't forgotten about me," he says.

RAY **DELLA PIETRA**

Hero . . . Glenn Stromberg.

Adios! Big names on the way out

Time to say goodbye . . . Donato and Brehme (below right) are leaving Spain.

IT'S adios time in Spanish football. The country renowned as one of Europe's top importers seems set to suffer an exodus at the end of the season later this month.

Not surprisingly, Atletico Madrid look like being the club worst affected, with more and more players complaining that Jesus Gil's brand of presidency does not make for the most relaxed of working conditions.

Paulo Futre has deserted, Bernd Schuster also has announced his intention of abandoning ship, and so has Brazilian Donato Gama de Oliveira, who was fined £3,000 for telling the media why he was heading for the lifeboat.

Argentine midfielder Jose Luis Villarreal, signed during Omar Pastoriza's 38-day reign, was fined two months' wages and banned from training after criticising Gil, so he is now heading back to Boca Juniors.

All this could be interpreted as an unorthodox economy drive.

The most dramatic adios, however, was uttered by Andreas Brehme of Germany and Zaragoza. His relationship with the manager, Victor Fernandez, 19 days his junior, had never been a pool of oil, as the Spanish proverb goes. But the team talk before the crucial game against Tenerife was the final straw.

When Brehme was told he would be moving to the left side of midfield to make room in the centre for Santiago Aragon, newly signed from Real Madrid, his response was to walk out of the team hotel.

On the following day, club and player reached an amicable agreement to rescind his contract, due to run until June 1994. Zaragoza were happy to save nearly £500,000 on the wage bill for a player who had hardly endeared himself to the locals by travelling so frequently to Germany for treatment from the Bayern Munich doctor.

This was stipulated in his contract, but many people suspected, rightly or wrongly, that he was using club funds to pay for trips back home, where consultations had lasted as long as 11 days.

Brehme claimed the club president had gone down on his knees and begged him to stay.

In the meantime, the managerial carousel was producing even more not-so-fond farewells.

Burgos dismissed Monchu, and their third coach of the season is the likeable Miguel Sanchez, assistant manager to Vicente Miera during Spain's run to the Olympic gold.

Survival was a tall order, but three points from his first two games in charge at least helped prolong the agony.

Bert Jacobs was the other notable casualty. Sporting Gijon hit third place in October and Dutchman Jacobs was hailed as a shrewd acquisition. But a run of one win, three draws and ten defeats since Christmas was enough to shepherd Sporting into the relegation play-off zone and Jacobs through the exit.

He did not take kindly to the first sacking in his long managerial career.

When Sporting Gijon officials rang his doorbell with an order to appear before the board and face the music, Jacobs turned a deaf ear. "I was conversing with God," he later explained.

Sporting, like Atletico Madrid, resorted to the devil they knew. Jesus Gil plucked the former Argentine World Cup sweeper Armando "Cacho" Heredia out of Division 2B side Avila, and Gijon went for former manager Carlos Garcia Guervo, also in Division 2B, at Aviles.

Diego Maradona, of course, would have nothing to do with such mercurial signs of disorder.

His appeal against the two-match ban for brawling in Cadiz earned him a 50 per cent reduction which freed him for the home game against Celta.

Three days beforehand he attended a charity function in Jerez and came back from the shrine of sherry suffering from lumbago and an upset tum.

He did not play against Celta, and declared himself unfit to appear before the Disciplinary Commission in Madrid to explain his remark that "I thought the mafia only existed in Italy" — made after Number 10 came out of the drug-testing hat three days after his mate Claudio Caniggia had been tested positive.

Although Maradona says he wants to stay at Sevilla, the club are not happy with their return on a considerable outlay.

Perhaps he might be best advised to join the adios brigade.

GRAHAM **TURNER**

Cup with little romance

AFTER nine months of boredom and disinterest, the Copa del Rey is set for a thrilling climax later this month.

In the two-leg semi-finals, scheduled for June 9 and 16, Valencia take on Zaragoza and Real Madrid face Barcelona for a place in the final, on the 26th.

Barcelona and Valencia had no difficulties in trouncing Second Division sides Valladolid and Villarreal, but Zaragoza had to work hard for a 3-2 aggregate win over Raddy Antic's Oviedo, and Real Madrid suffered mightily against Real Sociedad.

They were vastly flattered by a 4-0 scoreline in the first leg — Real Sociedad even missed a penalty — after which John Toshack felt moved to opine: "We could have played all summer without scoring a goal." In the return at Atocha, however, Real Madrid breathed a jumbo-sized sigh of relief when the whistle sounded with only 4-1 on the scoreboard.

Suggesting . . . Real Madrid coach Benito Floro.

Madrid have won only seven of 21 Cup meetings with Barcelona, and the two needle matches during the nail-biting final League straight came as unwelcome news to their manager, Benito Floro.

Grievously, the Wednesdays in May left vacant for the European finals were blank dates for both clubs and Floro suggested the semi be brought forward. Barcelona coach Cruyff would have nothing of it. He rates Real's last two League fixtures (Atletico at home and Tenerife away) as much more difficult than his own and is delighted at the chance to distract the opposition on the previous Wednesdays.

But the bald fact is that nobody is happy with the current Copa del Rey format and, at the time of writing, there is still fierce debating about the venue for the final, with Real refusing point-blank to contemplate the Olympic Stadium in Barcelona.

Valencia, in the meantime, have come up with proposals to seed the top eight clubs and plug them straight into the last 16 of the competition, leaving the rest of the country to fight for the other places.

The home-and-away basis and the exemption granted to clubs involved in Europe already subtract excitement from a Cup where two months separate quarter-finals and semi-finals.

While the supporters demand more romanticism, Valencia propose to make the competition even more prosaic and predictable.

GRAHAM **TURNER**

Cadiz crisis

CADIZ fans are holding their collective breath — again. For the last six seasons the club have escaped relegation on the last weekend, and at the moment they are 19th out of 20.

Struggling . . . Zamorano of Real Madrid in opposition to Nadal of Barcelona.

RESULTS

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 4

WEEKEND

CELTA 0
RAYO VALLECANO 0. Att: 4,000.

ALBACETE 2 (Rommel Fernandez 22, Zalazar 32)
ATLETICO MADRID 1 (Luis Garcia 12). Att: 15,000.

SEVILLA 0
OVIEDO 1 (Carlos 80 pen). Att: 30,000.

GIJON 0
LA CORUNA 1 (Albistegui 90). Att: 14,000.

OSASUNA 1 (Merino 18)
CADIZ 1 (Javi 53). Att: 13,000.

BURGOS 1 (Limperger 59)
VALENCIA 1 (Fernando 75). Att: 9,000.

REAL SOCIEDAD 4 (Kodro 3, Oceano 58, Lumbreras 66, Fuentes 68)
ESPANOL 1 (Lluis 73). Att: 13,000.

BARCELONA 3 (Salinas 19, Beguiristain 48, Bakero 65)
LOGRONES 0. Att: 6,000.

REAL MADRID 4 (Sanchis 20, Zamorano 35, 80, Hierro 37)
REAL ZARAGOZA 0. Att: 75,000.

TENERIFE 2 (Estebaranz 26, 65)
ATHLETIC BILBAO 1 (Garitano 70). Att: 22,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 11

WEEKEND

REAL ZARAGOZA 2 (Moises 60, Aragon 75)
TENERIFE 2 (Pizzi 31, 61). Att: 15,000.

ESPANOL 1 (Escaich 31)
REAL MADRID 3 (Hierro 7, Prosinecki 51, Zamorano 67). Att: 45,000.

ATHLETIC BILBAO 1 (Mendiguren 60)
BARCELONA 0. Att: 46,000.

CADIZ 2 (Fali 82, 86)
REAL SOCIEDAD 1 (Uria 75). Att: 7,000.

LOGRONES 0
BURGOS 1 (Balint 55). Att: 8,000.

OVIEDA 1 (Jankovic 74)
OSASUNA 2 (Sanchez Jaro 21, Larrainzar 41). Att: 15,753.

VALENCIA 2 (Fernando 37, Arroyo 67)
GIJON 0. Att: 40,000.

RAYO VALLECANO 0
SEVILLA 1 (Carvajal 89). Att: 12,000.

LA CORUNA 3 (Claudio 3, Aldana 42, Bebeto 44)
ALBACETE 2 (Rommel 10, Zalazar 82). Att: 23,000.

ATLETICO MADRID 1 (Lukic 6)
CELTA 1 (Gil 12). Att: 9,000.

DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Barcelona	29	18	8	3	71	28	44
Real Madrid	29	19	6	4	58	23	44
La Coruna	29	18	7	4	55	24	43
Valencia	29	12	10	7	42	27	34
Tenerife	29	11	12	6	45	35	34
Atletico Madrid	29	13	8	8	43	33	34
Sevilla	29	12	8	9	35	33	32
Athletic Bilbao	29	13	4	12	38	38	30
Real Zaragoza	29	9	11	9	30	39	29
Espanol	29	9	10	10	37	41	28
Osasuna	29	10	7	13	34	33	27
Celta	29	8	11	10	19	23	27
Real Sociedad	29	11	5	13	38	47	27
Rayo Vallecano	29	7	12	10	31	35	26
Oviedo	29	8	8	13	33	36	24
Gijon	29	7	9	13	28	49	23
Albacete	29	7	7	15	41	49	21
Logrones	29	5	9	15	22	42	19
Cadiz	29	4	11	14	23	50	19
Burgos	29	3	9	17	19	57	15

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 18

MIDWEEK

CUP QUARTER-FINALS, 2ND LEGS

BARCELONA 3 (Carreras 65, Salinas 75, 84)
VALLADOLID 0.
Barcelona won on agg 6-1.

REAL SOCIEDAD 4 (Alkiza 13, 42, 68, Martinez 74)
REAL MADRID 1 (Esnaider 30).
Real Madrid won 5-4 on agg.

OVIEDO 1 (Carlos 38)
REAL ZARAGOZA 2 (Dario Franco 46, Gat 59).
Real Zaragoza won 3-2 on agg.

VALENCIA 6 (Sanchez 5, 25, 48, Arroyo 40, 83, Fernando 87)
VILLAREAL 0.
Valencia won 8-1 on agg.

WEEKEND

BURGOS 1 (Edu 88)
ATHLETIC BILBAO 1 (Eskurza 90). Att: 9,500.

LA CORUNA 1 (Bebeto 17 pen)
ATLETICO MADRID 1 (Vizcaino 70 pen). Att: 25,000.

SEVILLA 1 (Monchu 60)
CELTA 0. Att: 33,000.

OSASUNA 1 (Merino 17)
RAYO VALLECANO 0. Att: 18,000.

REAL SOCIEDAD 1 (Oceano)
OVIEDO 0. Att: 15,000.

REAL MADRID 3 (Butragueno 53, 73, Zamorano 65)
CADIZ 1 (Macepo 35). Att: 80,000.

GIJON 1 (Ablanedo 85)
LOGRONES 1 (Salenko 51). Att: 16,500.

ALBACETE 0
VALENCIA 1 (Fernando 50). Att: 10,000.

Albacete's Zalazar tackles Deportivo La Coruna's Barragan.

LIGHT ON NADAL

Christmas cracker

A VOTE for the Spanish player of the season would be a toss-up between two from Barcelona, with Real Madrid's Michel and Deportivo's Adolfo Aldana lurking in the background.

The first from Barca is midfielder-cum-left-winger Aitor Beguiristain, enjoying his best spell since he arrived from Real Sociedad in 1988. The other is Miguel Angel Nadal.

Accusations of lunacy are openly admitted. The records, after all, show that at the time of writing Nadal had played only 19 full games this season; 17 last season; was an unused sub at Wembley when Barcelona won the Champions' Cup; and has yet to play a full game for his country.

His debut was the second half of a friendly against Czechoslovakia, followed, two months later, by 21 minutes against Portugal and, after a 14-month absence, the second half of Spain's 1-0 World Cup defeat in Denmark.

Nadal's virtue — and handicap — is that he's a jack-of-all-trades. At Barcelona, coach Cruyff has used him as sweeper, marker, central midfield, right-side midfield and central striker.

He has excelled in every position, to the extent that after he "swept" for Ronald Koeman during a three-match ban, there were loud mutterings when the Dutchman was reinstated.

Strong, skilful, dominant in the air, good finisher . . . Nadal is the sort of complete footballer who would be an automatic choice anywhere but Barcelona, where he tends to be thrown in as a joker when other cards fail to turn up trumps.

"Complete sportsman" might be a better definition of this six-footer who was the schoolboy tennis champion of the Balearics. He was born in Manacor, known for its pearls, and still has such a broad Majorcan accent that one radio show habitually parodies him with an interpreter.

His surname, which means Christmas in Catalan, has generated lorry-loads of Christmas-cracker jokes, as has the fact that his dad, conductor of the local band, would have preferred him to blow his trumpet for Real Madrid.

In the event, he was within hours of signing for Real Zaragoza. He was booked on a flight at 12.30 to agree terms but somebody had tipped off Real Mallorca and, anxious to retain local talent, they were on the phone at 8.30. Miguel Angel accepted lower terms just to stay on the island.

Even then the breakthrough was not easy. John Toshack noted Nadal's name when Real Sociedad were drawn against Mallorca's reserve side in the 1988 Copa del Rey, but the all-Basque policy prevented a signing.

By the time Toshack moved to Real Madrid, Barcelona already had an option on Nadal, who had been so impressive during Mallorca's march into the title play-offs.

During all this time the lad with three older brothers and a twin sister had been such a "homer" that he preferred to make the 30-mile trip to Palma for training every day rather than leave his home in Porto Cristo.

He recognises that manager Lorenzo Serra Ferrer, a close friend of Cruyff, made him suffer in the reserves or on the bench but moulded him into the player he is. So much so that Mallorca demanded — and received — £1m for the youngster who had cost them £15,000 when they signed him from Olimpic.

By that time Nadal had added concentration and ambition to his laid-back, holiday-isle game and his ability to operate in different roles made him just the sort of player Cruff takes to.

Nailing down a regular place in the first team is another matter, but his form this season has shouted such loud messages into the Dutchman's ear that he has moved Ronald Koeman forward in some games to accommodate Nadal as sweeper.

That is perhaps the most telling testimony to his quality.

GRAHAM **TURNER**

PRO-FILE

MIGUEL ANGEL NADAL

BARCELONA AND SPAIN

Born: July 27, 1966, in Manacor.

Previous clubs: Olimpic Manacor, Real Mallorca.

International debut: November 13, 1991 v Czechoslovakia in Seville, won 2-1.

HONOURS

International caps: 3 (0 goals)

LIGHTNING STRIKER . . . with 628 flashes of brilliance

MIKE LANGLEY relives the career of

GERD MULLER, THE GREATEST MODERN SCORER

BAYERN MUNICH were only a Second Division club until they signed the greatest of modern scorers for £920.

I've heard claims of 1,000 goals for both Pele and Puskas. Those totals, even if substantiated, would include a high proportion of hits on soft targets when playing exhibitions.

But Gerd Muller scored all his 628 goals in competitive play. He listed them for me at his home a few days before leaving Germany in 1979 for a star-crossed assignment in Florida.

"I got at least one goal in every competition I played in," he said, handing over this break-down (see panel below):

MULLER'S GOAL RECORD

Internationals	68
First Division	365
Second Division	39
German FA Cup	76
League Cup	12
European Cup	36
Cup-winners' Cup	20
UEFA Cup	7
World Club Cup	1
European Super Cup	3
Junior internationals	1

Muller, now 47 and fighting alcoholism, can browse through his list and reflect on how he gave hangovers to keepers.

"God help them," he said. "Often I didn't know where the ball was going, so how could they?"

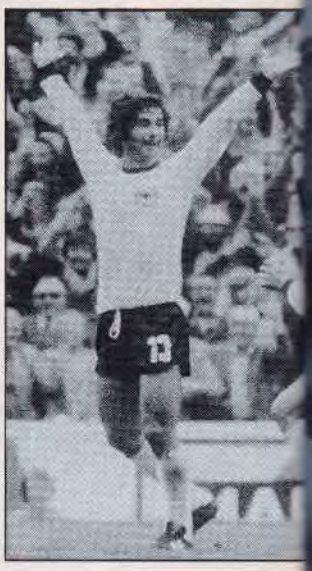
Der Bomber — No. 13 in his two World Cups — is etched for ever in my memory when airborne in Mexico during extra time in the 1970 quarter-final, swinging his right foot to volley a winner over the upstretched hands of England's unfortunate Peter Bonetti.

That, though, is not how Muller pictures himself. The image in his mind is of crouching low, sometimes almost on his back, in a crowded penalty area while turning to shoot amid the flying boots.

He told me: "Hundreds of my goals were scored on the turn with only the vaguest sense of direction.

"I always knew the net was somewhere close, but not which corner I'd fired at."

Ray Clemence remembers a quite different strike by Muller when Bayern beat Liverpool 3-1: "He outjumped Larry Lloyd, nearly twice his size and good in the air, to head a cross against the angle of the bar and upright.



"I dived, but couldn't get to the ball as it bounced down and out with Muller on the ground. He'd jumped so high that he'd fallen over by the penalty spot.

"Yet he was up before me and reached the ball while it was still bouncing. Then he

stuck it in the net. He was lightning in the box."

Muller won the 1974 World Cup Final in Munich, despite West Germany being one down after only a minute against Johan Cruyff's entrancing total footballers.

As Cesar Menotti, manager of Argentina's 1978 winners, observed: "A case of one specialist beating 10 all-rounders."

Muller is an amiable man, not boastful in any way — which is one reason for so many old team-mates rallying to help when the public learned that drinking habits acquired in Fort Lauderdale had ruined his fortune, his marriage and his health.

It isn't boasting, but justified pride, when Muller recalls that right-footed shot in the 43rd minute after a pounce and spin that left Ruud Krol of Holland on his backside, the picture of resignation.

Muller told me: "My turn for that goal was timed off film at less than half a second. Precisely, 0.43 of a second.

"From boyhood, I had the knack of darting from goal to meet the ball, then turning to win time and space. Being only 5ft 9ins helps. I'd turn twice to the big defenders' once.

"Turns, spins and back-to-goal drills were the basis of my game and I'd spend an hour a day practising them. Also I never lost sight of the fact that no ball is hopeless and that defenders are quite likely to hesitate.

"When it was me against a keeper, I never worried 'What if he stops it?' but only 'Where should I put it?'. And if there was no obvious gap, I'd aim at his left-hand corner because nearly every keeper is weakest there.

"Coaches teach shooting with the instep, but I scored hundreds close in with the inside of my right foot or by dragging the ball across with the toes of either foot."

TSV Munich 1860, Cup-winners' Cup finalists against West Ham at Wembley in 1965, were the premier club of Bavaria until Bayern scouts spotted Muller scoring 48 promotion goals in a season for his home town of Nordlingen, a fortified, half-timbered dream along the Romantic Road north of Munich.

Bayern paid £420 to Nordlingen and £500 to Muller's widowed mother, but the Burgermeister came round with his councillors protesting: "If you don't want to stay amateur, at least don't leave us to go part-time in the Second Division."

The Mayor did not foresee how swiftly Bayern, champions once in 1932, would rise again with Muller and a young outside-left called Franz Beckenbauer from a gents' outfitters.

Muller, a weaver by trade, was found work more suited to his physique: furniture remover!

As far as the club coach was concerned, Bomber could stay in the van.

"Remarks came back, although never said to my face," Muller told me.

"I was only 18 but 13 stone, nearly 12lbs overweight, thickset and dumpy. The coach dubbed me 'The weightlifter' and asked if he was expected to put a bear among racehorses.

"It didn't help when I broke an arm on my first appearance and was out for six weeks, but a hat-trick in the reserves put things right.

"I went back in the first team, scored twice, and was never out from then on unless sick or injured."

Medals cascaded on Muller and Beckenbauer — the World Cup, the European Championship, three European Cups, a Cup-winners' Cup, four League championships and four German FA Cups.

Muller revealed to me: "I'd intended to sign for 1860, not for Bayern. So it was a fluke that brought Franz and me together.

"I was the instrument for turning his genius into goals, but neither of us might have been so staggeringly successful without the other."

Maybe not, but my view of football is that the finisher outranks the creator. For the game is about putting the ball in the net.

In that department, Muller stands alone.

He scored more international goals than he played games (68 in 62 appearances). He's the record World Cup scorer with 14 goals from the 1970 and 1974 tournaments.

He also scored in each of Germany's six qualifiers for 1970. Nine goals in all — two equalisers and two last-minute winners.

Anybody who beats that will be some player!

The master . . . Muller celebrates his winning goal for West Germany against Holland in the 1974 World Cup Final.

RESULTS

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 4

WEEKEND

WATTENSCHEID 2 (Ibrahim 73, Lesniak 79)
BAYERN MUNICH 0. Att: 30,000.

BORUSSIA DORTMUND 4 (Zorc 4, Chapuisat 66, Sammer 69, 85)
KOLN 1 (Rudz 81). Att: 41,800.

KARLSRUHE 1 (Bender 50)
HAMBURG 0. Att: 17,500.

BORUSSIA MG 5 (Pflipsen 19, 57, 86, Hochstatter 53, Wynhoff 61)
DYNAMO DRESDEN 1 (Melzig 25). Att: 28,000.

BAYER LEVERKUSEN 3 (Klaus 50, Kirsten 52, 88)
BOCHUM 1 (Schwanke 17). Att: 17,000.

SAARBRUCKEN 0
EINTRACHT FRANKFURT 0. Att: 28,000.

NURNBERG 1 (Dorfner 37)
SCHALKE 4 (Anderbrugge 24, Mihajlovic 26, Boredjuk 76, Buskens 83). Att: 39,500.

WERDER BREMEN 1 (Votava 45)
KAISERSLAUTERN 0. Att: 26,388.

STUTTGART 1 (Dubajic 31)
UERDINGEN 2 (Adler 19, Laessig 90). Att: 14,000.

BUNDESLIGA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bayern Munich	28	15	9	4	57	33	39
Werder Bremen	28	15	9	4	47	25	39
Bor. Dortmund	27	15	5	7	52	32	35
Ein. Frankfurt	27	12	11	4	46	30	35
Leverkusen	27	10	11	6	50	36	31
Karlsruhe	27	10	10	7	46	44	30
Kaiserslautern	27	10	7	10	40	28	27
Borussia Mg	27	9	9	9	46	47	27
VfB Stuttgart	27	7	12	8	36	38	26
Schalke	27	8	10	9	27	34	26
Hamburg	27	6	13	8	35	33	25
Nurnberg	27	9	6	12	23	36	24
Saarbrucken	27	5	13	9	35	49	23
Wattenscheid	27	8	7	12	36	52	23
Dyn. Dresden	27	6	10	11	28	41	22
Koln	27	9	2	16	35	45	20
Bochum	27	5	8	14	35	44	18
Uerdingen	27	5	8	14	26	53	18

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 11

WEEKEND

EINTRACHT FRANKFURT 3 (Shmitt 45, Yeboah 75, Bommer 90)
WERDER BREMEN 0. Att: 36,000.

DYNAMO DRESDEN 0
SAARBRUCKEN 0. Att: 16,500.

KAISERSLAUTERN 0
STUTTGART 0. Att: 34,698.

KOLN 1 (Fuchs 90)
BORUSSIA MG 2 (Schneider 70, Dahlin 75). Att: 53,300.

UERDINGEN 2 (Bittengel 26, Gorlukovich 47)
NURNBERG 1 (Eckstein 17). Att: 7,100.

BAYERN MUNICH 2 (Wouters 50, Thon 83 pen)
BORUSSIA DORTMUND 0. Att: 64,000.

SCHALKE 2 (Sendscheid 6, 37)
LEVERKUSEN 1 (Hapal 64). Att:42,500.

BOCHUM 2 (Aden 8, 23)
KARLSRUHE 2 (Novotny 10, 20). Att: 18,000.

HAMBURG 1 (Letchkov 31)
WATTENSCHEID 1 (Wolters 63). Att: 17,450.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 18

WEEKEND

STUTTGART 2 (Walter 9, Kienle 88)
EINTRACHT FRANKFURT 2 (Kruse 18 pen, Yeboah 48). Att: 35,000.

LEVERKUSEN 1 (Thorn 25)
UERDINGEN 0. Att: 8,700.

KARLSRUHE 0
SCHALKE 0. Att: 26,000.

BORUSSIA MG 2 (Dahlin 47, 70)
BAYERN MUNICH 2 (Ziege 12, Scholl 25). Att: 34,500.

SAARBRUCKEN 0
KOLN 3 (Fuchs 30, Heldt 55, Ordenewitz 88). Att: 30,000.

NURNBERG 0
KAISERSLAUTERN 0. Att: 29,000.

WERDER BREMEN 3 (Legat 21, Wolter 25, Beiersdorfer 87)
DYNAMO DRESDEN 0. Att: 19,100.

BOCHUM 1 (Aden 61)
HAMBURG 2 (Furtok 38, Letchkov 54). Att: 22,300.

BORUSSIA DORTMUND 6 (Chapuisat 16, 54, 88, Rummenigge 52, Sammer 62, Mill 80)
WATTENSCHEID 0. Att: 42,800.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 25

WEEKEND

BAYERN MUNICH 6 (Labbadia 16, 67, Scholl 25, 28, 58, Kreuzer 44)
SAARBRUCKEN 0. Att: 25,000.

WATTENSCHEID 3 (Wolters 12, Fink 24, Neuhaus 62)
BORUSSIA MG 1 (Dahlin 75). Att: 14,500.

KOLN 0
WERDER BREMEN 0. Att: 40,000.

DYNAMO DRESDEN 0
VfB STUTTGART 0. Att: 14,600.

HAMBURG 1 (Baron 86)
BORUSSIA DORTMUND 2 (Zorc 56, 76). Att: 43,500.

SCHALKE 0
BOCHUM 3 (Aden 23, 31, U. Wegmann 81). Att: 51,800.

UERDINGEN 1 (Walz 81)
KARLSRUHE 1 (Krieg 10). Att: 7,000.

KAISERSLAUTERN 4 (Kadlec 8, Dooley 11, Kuntz 77, Goldbaek 83)
LEVERKUSEN 0. Att: 30,000.

EINTRACHT 0
NURNBERG 0. Att: 26,000.

Borussia in the money

BORUSSIA DORTMUND have revived the glory days of 1966, when they last reached a European semi-final. Then they went on to win the Cup-winners' Cup, and now they have hit an unprecedented financial jackpot.

By advancing into the semi-final of the UEFA Cup, the Dortmunder earned £10 million — by far a record for a German club. By qualifying for the final, beating Auxerre on penalties, they have raised their takings by another £2 million.

When receipts from League and national Cup matches — through sponsorship, advertising, gate money and TV fees — are added, Borussia estimate their total income this season to be a staggering £16 million.

The club were helped by the failure of the other German participants in Europe. For this season alone Germany's biggest sports promotions agency, Munich-based ISPR, paid the German FA a record $24 million for the marketing and TV rights.

Ten per cent of this goes to UEFA and 20 per cent into the league pool, to be divided between the Bundesliga and the Second Division, but most of the cash is to be distributed among the seven German Euro contestants. Dortmund, as the most successful club, will collect by far the biggest cut — half the total.

Borussia's treasurer, Hans-Jurgen Freundlieb, declares: "We can now compete with Bayern Munich on equal terms. Our wage bill is £5.6 million, about the same as theirs. That means our players don't have to leave, because Bayern couldn't pay them more than we do now."

Borussia also have broken the Bundesliga record by paying £3.4 million for international midfielder Matthias Sammer (ex-Inter), but missed the UEFA transfer deadline, so he is not eligible to play in Europe.

For that he can blame his former club, Stuttgart, who had first option on him in the event of his return to Germany. Stuttgart intervened in the transfer negotiations and then pulled out, but past the vital date.

No doubt Borussia will be able to invest in new players for next season. But at the time of writing Bayern still led the Bundesliga, helped by a 2-0 win over an admittedly injury-weakened Borussia, before a capacity crowd of 64,000 in Munich.

Irrespective of whether they win the title or not, Bayern will strengthen their team. They have been looking at strikers such as George Weah and David Ginola, both of Paris SG, and Chile's Ivan Zamorano of Real Madrid.

Significantly, Bayern team boss Erich Ribbeck has forbidden his players to discuss transfers in public.

ARTHUR **ROTMIL**

A big payoff . . . perhaps

THE Swiss FA made a loss in the last two years, mainly on account of disappointing results by the national team.

Now they are hoping to make up for it on an unprecedented scale, with possible qualification for the 1994 World Cup.

The 31,000 sell-out crowd who watched the qualifier against Portugal in Bern brought in over £500,000 net. The game against Italy was worth nearly £1 million.

And if the Swiss get to the finals they could earn a record £5 million.

Speculation is rife whether the only home tie in the autumn, against Estonia, will attract 1,300 or 31,000. It all depends on how the Swiss will be placed in their group.

Further income would be derived from preparatory matches. And in the World Cup the Swiss can count on nearly £2 million from FIFA guarantees.

The only problem seems to be finding a main sponsor.

Several smaller firms have invested, but the wealthier enterprises are waiting to see if the national team make it to the US. Television, too, sits on the fence.

In the championship, Young Boys continue to set the pace but the crowds have been below expectations. The game between the leaders and Servette drew 5,100 customers.

TV was blamed for that meagre attendance, while the poor quality of football is not likely to persuade more fans to visit the grounds.

Significantly, the biggest crowd flocked to see Grasshopper in the relegation play-off pool — 14,800 saw their 3-0 win over Luzern.

The Hoppers led their group, having won five and drawn one of their six matches, with a goal tally of 20-3.

AUSTRIA

FK AUSTRIA continue their march at the top, having extended their lead to four points.

Their 2-0 away victory over Wacker, their first in Innsbruck for 17 years, boosted expectations of a first title. Ironically the first goal was scored by a former Innsbruck player, Lainer, and the second by a Croatian, Jurcevic.

Salzburg manager Otto Baric praised his men, but warned: "Talk of us being champions is premature."

Admira Wacker's three successive wins pushed them up the table to keep in touch with the leading group.

Admira's most dangerous attacker is the German, Olaf Marschall, second in the scoring list behind Innsbruck's Czech, Vaclav Danek.

On the international front the talk is of midfielder Harald Cerny, 19, an amateur with Bayern Munich.

Reports suggested that he was contemplating taking out German nationality to ease Bayern's foreign contingent problems. Cerny promised to make a decision in the summer, but a few days later he was making his debut in Austria's national side, in a 2-1 win over Greece.

In the World Cup qualifiers the 1-0 home defeat by France was a bad blow, and the subsequent 3-1 success over Bulgaria did not compensate.

ARTHUR **ROTMIL**

Cuckoo!

JOHN MOYNIHAN talks to **ROY HODGSON**, the coach behind a country's revival

IF Switzerland manage to confound some of their more pessimistic supporters weaned on nearly 30 years of failure by qualifying for next year's World Cup finals, then Roy Hodgson can look forward to enjoying some of the fame once gained by the inventor of the cuckoo clock.

In Swiss timekeeping tradition, Hodgson — Uli Stielike's successor as national coach — has impressed his employers with his own brand of unstuffy enthusiasm. He dearly wants to put an end to what he calls "an appalling length of time for an international team to be out there in the wilderness."

Many Swiss cannot remember when their national football team qualified for the world's major soccer event. Their last appearance in the finals was in 1966 in England, when they finished bottom of their group behind West Germany, Argentina and Spain.

In a country normally besotted by ice hockey and skiing, Hodgson has become something of a celebrity. He is not fooled by that, and knows the handshakes could turn to frowns if Switzerland slip back to their hibernations of the past.

The Swiss only really woke up to the fact that their team had a chance of qualifying for the United States after the draw in Italy last October.

Hodgson's team were the width of a slice of salami from victory when Arrigo Sacchi's Azzurri salvaged a 2-2 draw in the last seconds. True, Switzerland had beaten Scotland 3-1 in Berne, but that had not been unexpected, following Hodgson's 6-0 win in Estonia, and the Scottish habit of not always getting it right on the night.

The Italian mission was something different. Hodgson's squad achieved wonders in Sardinia — and were treated as heroes accordingly.

But Hodgson, born in Croydon 47 years ago, is a realist. He stresses that the real showdowns were to come. His team's matches at home to Portugal and away to Malta yielded a draw and a victory, but ahead lay the crucial fixtures in Berne against Italy, and in Scotland.

"One of the most important dates is October 13," he says.

"We visit Portugal and Scotland go to Italy. Hold on to your seat belts for those!"

Hodgson is an admirer of both Sacchi and Andy Roxburgh.

"Sacchi had a rough ride in the Italian press, but you would expect that. He wasn't doing what they thought he ought to do. But he's building an outstanding record — I was particularly impressed by his team in Portugal.

"Roxburgh's very intelligent and shrewd. Scotland's outstanding World Cup qualifying showings in the past means they'll be knocking at the door right up to the last group matches. So if you think we're going to have an easy ride to the States, don't say I said so."

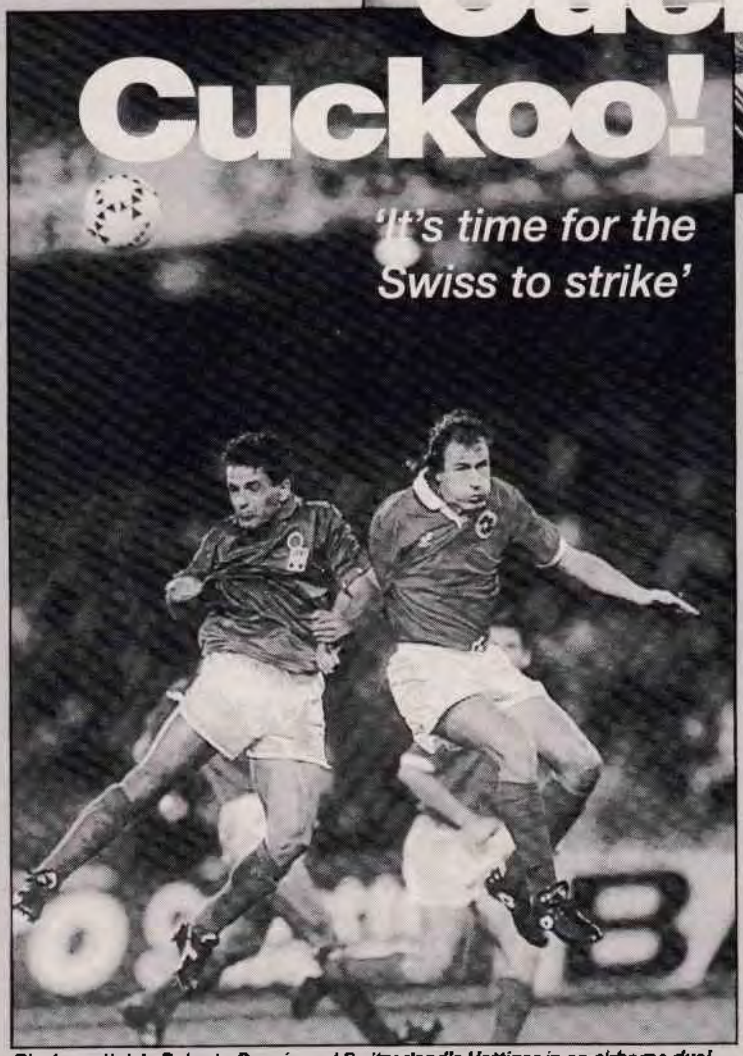
When Hodgson was a player, the teams he most admired were the Arsenal double side of 1970-71 under Bertie Mee, and the Ajax "total football" team managed by Rinus Michels and marshalled by Johan Cruyff. His tactics geared to overall flair (Ajax) and disciplined caution (Arsenal) have proved beneficial for the Swiss.

One of his major successes was to play 34-year-old midfielder Georges Bregy in a strictly screening role against Roberto Baggio in Cagliari. Hodgson had recalled the somewhat temperamental Bregy after a spell of being ignored by his predecessors, and he kept Baggio pushed back deep, out of harm's way.

"We didn't want Baggio to have the freedom of the park, Georges did a sound job."

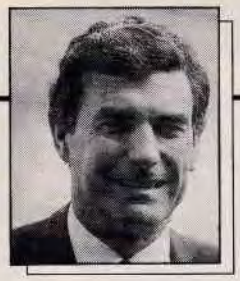
Much to his relief, as a foreigner, Hodgson has loyal support from everyone in Swiss football geared to getting the team to US '94, and has not had any problems about the selection of foreign-based players. These include Stephane Chapuisat (Borussia Dortmund), Adrian Knup (VfB Stuttgart) and Kubilay Turkyilmaz (Bologna).

Realist . . . Hodgson.



Rivals . . . Italy's Roberto Baggio and Switzerland's Hottiger in an airborne duel.

'It's time for the Swiss to strike'



BROOKING TALKBACK

BBC Radio and TV commentator TREVOR BROOKING, the former England midfielder, answers your letters. . .

Boks are back!

SIR — With all eyes on Europe and the emergence of numerous new footballing nations, especially from the former Soviet Union, I would like to draw attention to another rising country — South Africa.

True, we didn't start our international return very well, but after manager Tsabalala left we did not concede a goal in four games.

We have magnificent stadiums and our pitches are far superior to those of other African countries. Money is always available for development and sponsorships. We do not experience travelling and accommodation cost problems like many other African countries.

All we need now is experience, time to settle, and some friendly games against European countries. We also have some experienced people in our club football, like former England internationals Terry Paine (coach of Wits University) and Manchester United goalkeeper Gary Bailey.

Some of our national players are gaining valuable experience at European clubs, and others have had trials.

We certainly have the players to make it to the top and I predict a bright future for South African football. Expect to see us at the 1998 World Cup Finals in France.

— CHARL GERBER, Eendrag, Stellenbosch, 7600, South Africa.

● I'M sure South Africa are set to develop as quickly as possible, but the key word in your letter is experience. That doesn't come easily and will not be achieved with just a few friendly matches against European countries. It will definitely help to play against top teams, providing an opportunity to sample different styles and tactics. But competition is just as essential, as the additional tension and pressure brings a varied reaction from players. I feel the turn of the century might be a more realistic target.

Score point

SIR — The late Sir Stanley Rous, ex-FIFA president, said: "Soccer players must constantly remember their vocation is to propagate good football and produce the best spectacle."

Eleven years on, FIFA are still grappling with the problem. I suggest: (a): Three points for a win, as in England and a few other countries. (b): An extra point for every goal scored, or punishing teams who fail to score with minus one point.

What do you say?

— YAO N'KANO ISHAK, Bawku, Ghana.

● I have a certain reluctance towards too much change, but I believe three points for a win has been a resounding success in England. It usually rewards the more positive side and definitely acts as an incentive for improving the entertainment level.

In a World Cup Group it would act as a great stimulus to encourage more attacking. I am more dubious about extra points for goals, or the deduction of points if not.

We want Waddle

SIR — We may have seen the back of Chris Waddle at international level but this season he has performed some of the greatest soccer of his career.

What a shame Graham Taylor has showed such prejudice against selecting one of the most consistent performers this season. How on earth Mr Taylor can select an unfit and out-of-form John Barnes instead is beyond me.

The excuse Waddle is "too old" is wearing a little thin. We must select the best or suffer the consequences.

— M. DEAN, Lansdowne Avenue, Grimsby, South Humberside, United Kingdom.

● I also believe that Waddle's form has warranted a return. Unfortunately, I feel he is suffering the consequences of being a little too critical of Graham Taylor when left out some 18 months ago. Players often react a little hastily in such situations, and sometimes pay the penalty at a later date.

Taylor has emphasised how his current team pattern doesn't offer Waddle an obvious role, but he is such an adaptable player he is at least worth a place in a squad. Taylor intends to stay loyal to those previously selected, and of course the best way for him to answer the critics is to qualify convincingly for 1994. Only time will tell if his policy is correct.

Worlds apart

SIR — I have to reply to Ron Atkinson's claim that Bryan Robson was one of the top three footballers in the world during his time as manager of Manchester United.

This is a rather rash statement considering that Robson was never Football of the Year and never proved himself a huge success in a World Cup.

At the time Robson played for Atkinson such world stars as Platini, Maradona, Zico, Rossi, Socrates, Rummenigge, Breitner, Dalglish, Boniek were at their peak, and as good as Robson is, I don't feel that he was ever in the same class as those superstars.

— JOHN CALLOWAY, 63 Vasey Crescent, Carlisle, CA1 2BG.

● THIS is an argument that nobody can solve to everyone's satisfaction, because a player is only as good as each individual perceives him to be. Robson's strengths include tackling, aggression, an underrated passing ability, and the knack of scoring with powerful runs into the penalty area.

All these ingredients are fairly essential to the impact he made on the English game, but of course may not have been as effective in a continental style of play.

Your own suggestions are worthy alternatives. I would not have relished seeing them in any opposing line-up. I doubt whether it was a coincidence when you named Michel Platini first. He would figure in anybody's top trio — certainly in mine.

Kelly guilty

SIR — Torquay supporters would have been more interested in the April interview with Graham Kelly had he commented on his reasons for defending Brentford's Gary Blissett for an alleged assault on Torquay's John Uzzell.

Mr Kelly saw fit to speak up for someone who had been sent off by the referee, had been suspended for three matches, and then prosecuted by the police for the assault.

To top all this Kelly claimed that he saw 200 such incidents A WEEK in English football!

Those of us who witnessed the shocking "incident" will find it a lot easier to shrug off the absurdity of Kelly's conduct and remarks than Uzzell, whose face and career were smashed by Blissett's elbow, and observe that although Blissett was acquitted, Mr Kelly is far from free of guilt for what he did to undermine the authority of referees and, in turn, expose players to "commonplace" brushes with elbows. After all, it happens 200 times a week at least.

— JACK CRITCHLOW, 72 Sherwell Hill, Torquay, Devon, TQ2 6LX.

● AS you were a witness to the much-publicised incident I can understand your frustration at the events which followed. I was not there so cannot give a personal viewpoint, but I agree that it would have been better for Graham Kelly to have done the same.

Obviously he and the PFA are anxious that all "football incidents" are dealt with by the football authorities, and that they hand out the necessary punishment themselves. But to suggest he saw 200 such incidents a week in English football was ridiculous and diminished whatever else he said.

The illegal use of elbows is totally unacceptable, and referees and linesmen must continue to clamp down on anyone thinking otherwise. Certainly players need to have a careful look at their general behaviour on the pitch as TV cameras and police scrutiny mean that most "guilty men" will find it increasingly hard to plead their innocence when the evidence shows otherwise.

Tell Trevor . . .

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● Comments are Trevor Brooking's opinions and do not necessary reflect *WORLD SOCCER'S* views. He will answer only those letters published.

Calls cost UK 36p/minute cheap rate and 48p/minute at all other times.

Wembley worries

SIR — Alan Hansen might made a good point on TV when he said that having FA Cup semi-finals at Wembley will devalue the Final. I totally agree.

The whole idea is to reach Wembley the hard way, such as Hansen did in his day. The ultimate prize was to reach the Final, but now they might as well have the whole tournament played at Wembley. Great idea, Graham Kelly.
— *DOMENICO SCORDO, 26 Eastern Street, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP20 IBJ.*

● ***IT seems just another example where money again becomes the dominant factor. This season's semi-finals were exceptional — both featuring derbies.***

Consequently the demand for tickets was enormous and both achieved a near capacity crowd. That left fans happy, relieved the police of any extra security worries, and meant the four clubs and the FA received a good deal more income than in the past.

The general feeling afterwards was that it could become a regular occurrence, but it should be both matches or none at all. I have a certain sympathy with your plea for tradition, but feel it is an argument about to be lost.

Forza Italia!

SIR — When I read Mr. Gwillym's letter I almost fell out of my chair in disbelief. Has he seen any of the games on Channel Four this season? Was the Sampdoria v Lazio match (3-3) negative? Or was the Lazio v Milan game (5-3) boring? These are just two of the superb matches we have seen.

So, not every game has been as spectacular, but would Mr Gwillym have us believe that every English, Dutch, Belgian and German game has us on the edge of our seats? I have sat through many a dull 0-0 English match, but I also have seen many exciting games too.

Each nation's football has its own good and bad aspects, but to say Serie A is not exciting is outrageous.
— *ENZO MISURACA, Waltham Cross, Herts.*

● ***I certainly couldn't call Serie A boring or unexciting. Even if it sometimes becomes negative there is still a high level of technical skill to admire. As you rightly say, each nation's football has particular strengths, and a judgement shouldn't be made on the odd televised game. A live match will always have quieter moments when the action dips, and TV companies can never guarantee the qualify beforehand. Surely that is one of the great attractions of football — it remains so unpredictable!***

The price is wrong

SIR — I couldn't believe it when I read that the average cost of a seat at World Cup 1994 was likely to be between £17 and £330. How do they expect people to afford those prices, plus fares, hotel bills, transport, food?
— *ADAM AVEYARD, 130 Idle Road, Undercliffe, Bradford, BD2 4ND, West Yorkshire.*

● ***THE World Cup in 1994 was always likely to be an expensive proposition as Americans seem to accept quality facilities for sport as a priority, and expect to pay the equivalent prices required.***

The extent of the range you quote is worrying but I suspect those top figures are executive boxes geared to attracting companies who want to entertain clients.

Hopefully, the typical fan will get a realistic chance to attend as tickets eventually come on to the market as an overall package, including travel and accommodation. It would be unfair otherwise, as the regular supporter, must be encouraged at all times.

Video replay proves a point

SIR — I very much agree with Marco A. Alessi (April). I have the Scotland v Italy match on video and have watched it several times — especially the incident involving Roberto Baggio and Alan McLaren.

My opinion is that McLaren punched Baggio in the ribs, which resulted in Baggio being helped off and missing crucial games for Juventus, of which they lost three in a row (their worst run for 13 years). I was deeply upset to see such a class player leave the pitch like that.
— *SUZANNE M. BUCKLEY, Ashvale, Inverurie, Aberdeenshire, AB51 9AA.*

● ***ANY gifted player is dependent on strong control from the officials. Star names attract the closest of attention from defenders. Generally that protection is forthcoming, although I reckon Baggio should have become accustomed to such aggressive challenges during his Serie A career. It didn't have an adverse effect — he came back even sharper than ever.***

EXCHANGES

BARCELONA fan would like to hear from others around the world
— *Xavier Higuera, C/Andrade 22A 5c 2a, 08018 Barcelona, Spain.*

FAN in Ghana, 18, plays for Coast XI, seeking penfriends anywhere.
— *Evans Thorny Mensah, PO Box 844, Koforidua, Ghana.*

LIVERPOOL fan, 15, seeks penpals m/f, any country.
— *Glenn Woodage, 2 Haslemere Drive, Penketh, Warrington, WA5 2RP, England.*

ITALIAN and Spanish penpals wanted, by 16-year-old boy. I support Milan, Juventus and Barcelona.
— *Chow Jit Khai, 18 Stewart Lane, 10200 Penang, Malaysia.*

FOOTBALL fanatic seeks penfriends m/f, any country.
— *Charles Wiredu, PO Box 3247, Kumasi, Ghana.*

PENFRIENDS wanted, m/f, from Sweden, Holland, Canada and Japan. I follow Ajax and Flamengo.
— *Sam Wieh Obayemi, PO Box 10-5016, 1000 Monrovia 10, Liberia.*

SOCCER fan, 16, seeks to correspond with others, anywhere.
— *Shaban Rayhann, PO Box 12435, Accra, Ghana.*

PENPALS wanted, preferably Leeds followers.
— *Bekekile Alex Fuyana, B142 Njube, PO Mpopoma, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.*

IF you support any team, esp. European or British, or play Subbuteo, I would be delighted to hear from you.
— *Dave Brown, c/o 28 Cliffe Road, Market Weighton, East Yorkshire YO4 3BN, England.*

FOOTBALL fan seeks penfriends in beautiful, civilised England.
— *Samuel Ofori Boateng (18), c/o Frimpong, PO Box 1555, Sunyani, Ghana.*

FOOTBALL fan in Nepal looking for penpals worldwide, by fax. All letters answered.
— *Ravi Rana, Fax 977-1-411567.*

BOY, 17, seeking penpal m/f who supports Man. United or Arsenal.
— *Alex Dyoco, 36 Mhlanga Avenue, Mbare, Harare, Zimbabwe.*

AUSTRALIAN female, 21, who loves South American soccer (esp. Brazilian) seeks penpals, any age, gender, nationality.
— *Mary-Anne Jacques, 1 York St., Henley Beach, SA 5022, Australia.*

TWO Ghanaian fans seek penfriends to share views.
— *Anita de Greft Johnson, 25, and Elizabeth Komson, 24, PO Box 1284, Oguaa City, Ghana.*

FAN of Brazil and US would like penpals in these countries and others.
— *Blair Kavanagh (22), 26 Brookvale Road, Havelock North, Hawkes Bay, New Zealand.*

I'M a Manchester United supporter seeking penfriends anywhere.
— *Bekekile Alex Fuyana, B145 Njube Township, PO Mpopama, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.*

ALL letters answered by soccer fan seeking penapls, esp. in Austria and Sweden.
— *Christian Jensen, Skjoldsvej 6, 4200 Slagelse, Denmark.*

SOCCER enthusiast looking for penfriends all over the world.
— *Bright Obeng Kankam (19), c/o COP Madina North, PO Box 15, Madina, Accra, Ghana.*

FOUR Ghanaian soccer fans looking for penpals, any country.
— *Rejoyce Balfour (25,f), Angela Forson (24,f), Immanuel Annan (22,m), Bertha Elsa Amoah (24,f), PO Box 260 Oguaa Town c/r, Ghana, West Africa.*

WANTED

FOOTBALL material from all over the world wanted in exchange for Wisla Krakow scarves, tickets etc.
— *Mariusz Wista, ul. Barbary 10/178, 39-838 Krakow, Poland.*

POSTCARDS of soccer grounds/players for exchange. Write in Spanish/English.
— *Caludio Estrada Diego, Aptdo 206 Mello, Gronda, Cuba.*

TORPEDO fan seeks exchanges of soccer souvenirs with others in Europe. Write in English/French.
— *Igor Romanov, Volgogradski Prospect 106-1-72, Moscow 109443, Russia.*

FOOTBALL shirts of late 70s, early 80s wanted.
— *D. Coughlin, Newstead, Catforth, Preston, Lancashire, England.*

ABERDEEN programmes wanted, any season and in any country.
— *Ian McGarva, 14 Oakland Ave., Stranraer, Wigtownshire, Scotland.*

EXCHANGES

SOCCER pin badges to swap.
— *Bob Coley, 5029 Durango, Garland, Dallas, Texas 75043, USA.*

MILAN supporter will swap shirts, badges, scarves etc. of all Italian clubs with fans in other countries.
— *Andrea Iacazza, Via Brescia 21, 20010 Cornaredo (Mi) Italy.*

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SHOOT *Out every Tuesday*

Worthy of praise . . . Ricardo Gomes (above) and in action for Brazil against Italy (right)

RICARDO GOMES

Brainbox!

WORDS of praise flow readily when Paris Saint-Germain boss Artur Jorge speaks of his team's Brazilian centre-back, Ricardo Gomes.

"He is the best defender I've seen in 15 years of coaching," declares Jorge.

"Ricardo is always so calm, elegant and efficient. He reacts very quickly to dangerous situations and is a natural leader of men."

Jorge is justified in stressing authority and intelligence. Back in 1982, academic ability won Gomes a place on a business studies course at Rio University, but he was forced to drop out after a year because of soccer commitments.

Throughout an exemplary career, he has demonstrated his capacity to organise and inspire colleagues. At 20 he skippered Rio giants Fluminense, and three years later he became the youngest captain of the senior Brazil team.

Benfica of Lisbon also would be convinced of Ricardo's man-management skills and in 1989 he earned the distinction of being the first foreigner to lead their side.

Nationalistic considerations mean that the Paris Saint-Germain captaincy belongs to Frenchman Paul Le Guen. Few, however, could deny that Gomes is the effective director of operations.

Raymundo Ricardo Gomes is a rock in the centre of the defence. He plays alongside French international Alain Roche and their solid partnership is one of the principal factors behind PSG's push for honours this season.

Left-footed Ricardo and right-sided Roche share the tasks of marking and covering in a flat back four, and this system has brought outstanding results.

During Paris Saint-Germain's opening 19 matches of the 1992-93 championship, they conceded a miserly 15 goals, and en route to the UEFA Cup quarter-finals, they let in only one goal.

There is certainly a strong Brazilian flavour to PSG's recipe for success. Ricardo apart, compatriot Valdo pulls the creative strings in midfield, and from next summer Sao Paulo playmaker Rai will be wearing the club's white, red and blue.

"I am sure Rai has made a good choice," says Gomes.

"PSG are a very ambitious club and our UEFA Cup victories are proof of the team's great potential."

Although Gomes was born and raised in Rio de Janeiro, his story is not the traditional Brazilian tale of a youngster whose football talent provides an escape route from shanty-town poverty. His father was a naval officer and the family lived in a comfortable apartment in the residential quarter of Tijuca.

The Maracana stadium was a short distance away and during his childhood Ricardo would stand at his bedroom window and listen to the crowd.

"I could not see anything, but I was able to tell exactly what was going on," he recalls.

He began to adopt a much more active interest in the game.

As well as indulging in the widespread local pastime of beach soccer, he played indoor football with the Baila Isabel club and in 1977 he signed for Fluminense.

By the age of 18 Gomes was deemed ready for first-team action, in a Rio championship match versus Sao Cristovao. A week later he was plunged into the white-hot atmosphere of a derby between Fluminense and city rivals Flamengo.

"That night was an unforgettable experience," he says. "There were 120,000 fans at the Maracana and they were all shouting, singing and dancing. It was incredible to be part of it all."

Ricardo subsequently enjoyed five productive seasons with "Flu" and helped the club clinch two Rio crowns (1983 and 1984), and the 1984 national title. In June that year he made his first full appearance for Brazil — in a 2-0 defeat by England at Maracana.

After shining for the Brazilian Olympic team on a tour of Europe, he was transferred to Benfica in the summer of 1988.

Not that the honeymoon was to last long.

Benfica refused to release him for the Seoul Games and instead of collecting a silver medal with the Brazil squad, he had to watch on television.

Despite being the victim of this club-versus-country power struggle, Ricardo's rise to fame was not unduly hampered. He went on to skipper Brazil to victory at the 1989 Copa America and was outstanding as Benfica won the Portuguese League in 1989 and 1991 and were Champions' Cup runners-up in 1990.

While he has much to be proud of, his country's disastrous Italia '90 campaign remains a painful memory.

Brazil suffered a second-round defeat, and Gomes was sent off for a professional foul on Argentina's Claudio Caniggia, who scored the only goal.

"We dominated the entire match and still lost," he says sorrowfully.

"We didn't have any luck that afternoon."

In July 1991 Benfica sold Gomes to Paris Saint-Germain for £3 million, and he has no reservations about revealing the motivation behind the move.

"Football is both a sport and a business," he declares.

"I am not ashamed to say that I came to France because PSG offered me more money than Benfica."

NICK **BIDWELL**

PRO-FILE

Raymundo RICARDO GOMES.
PARIS SAINT-GERMAIN AND BRAZIL.

Born: December 13, 1964.

Previous clubs: Fluminense, Benfica.

Senior debut: January 1983 (for Fluminense) v Sao Cristovao.

International debut: June 1984 v England, lost 2-0.

International caps: 37 (1 goal).

HONOURS

Rio Championship *(with Fluminense)*: 1983, 1984.

Brazilian National Championship *(with Fluminense)*: 1984.

Portuguese Championship *(with Benfica)*: 1989, 1991.

Copa America *(with Brazil)*: 1989.

Paille into insignificance

SUDDEN failings in attack, leading to sudden failings in defence, hampered Monaco's title hopes in a curiously sterile period.

It was a spell in which, as the players admitted, if Jurgen Klinsmann did not score, then nobody did.

Then Monaco belatedly turned the corner with a 4-2 home win over Caen. Klinsmann was so-so, but midfielder Gnako scored twice including a penalty and was one of the best men on the day.

Caen missed the absent Gravelaine and Paille had a poor match, possibly with his thoughts elsewhere. His has been a strange career, great promise and international caps yet so many dead ends.

At Bordeaux for instance the idea was that he would form a devastating tandem with Eric Cantona, now such a success with Manchester United. Somehow it didn't happen and Paille moved to Bordeaux where, he says, everybody wanted him except the manager, Raymond Goethals.

So Paille moved again, to Portugal, where FC Porto's manager really impressed him even though he eventually dropped him. The manager was Artur Jorge, now at Paris Saint-Germain. How the wheel turns!

Things were bowling along nicely enough until Paille was sent off and suspended. Young Domingos came in, scoring so many goals that Paille became a mere memory. Eventually he went back to France, where he admits picking up the threads again was not easy.

Now he swears he will go at the end of the season — not essentially for more money. He admits that he does not get on any more with the Swiss manager, Daniel Jeandupeux.

Paille claims that the manager thinks he is no longer essential. Then there is the matter of his row with Argentine international winger Calderon. That has now been settled although Paille claims Jeandupeux took Calderon's side.

All this sounds somewhat petty, but you will deduce that the romance, such as it was, is dead.

When Paille was playing for Sochaux, where he made his name, he used to say that football was his whole life. Now he is devoted to his young son and says that football gives him pleasure. Sometimes.

My guess is that Jeandupeux will be much sorrier to lose Xavier Gravelaine than to lose Paille. Gravelaine arrived from Laval with a reputation as a tricky fellow, not necessarily on the field. Gradually Jeandupeux persuaded him that he was a striker not a midfielder . . . and he has been proved correct.

Unfortunately Gravelaine's success means that Paille has tended to operate away from the penalty box and has lost much of his efficiency.

Martigues, the little club who have set such a fine pace in the Second Division, are still challenging for promotion.

Theirs is a remarkable story — a club having barely two francs to bless themselves with, an average gate below 1,500 and a heavy deficit, knowing that even if they top their group they might not meet the necessary standards to qualify for the senior division.

ANDRE **DUCLOS**

Lost in France . . . Paille may be moving again.

RESULTS

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 4

WEEKEND

ST ETIENNE 0
MARSEILLE 2 (Voller 73, Desailly 81). **Att:** 41,539.

STRASBOURG 3 (Paillard 60, Bouafia 69, 89)
MONACO 0. **Att:** 27,404.

SOCHAUX 0
BORDEAUX 1 (Valdeir 81). **Att:** 3,626.

PARIS SG 2 (Simba 10, 90)
TOULON 0. **Att:** 18,000.

MONTPELLIER 1 (Pickeu 83 pen)
NANTES 0. **Att:** 9,000.

TOULOUSE 2 (Ferrer 24, 76)
AUXERRE 1 (Goma 39). **Att:** 6,631.

METZ 2 (Sechet 24, Huysman 71)
LYON 0. **Att:** 6,603.

CAEN 0
LENS 1 (Laigle 54). **Att:** 7,559.

VALENCIENNES 1 (C. Robert 53)
NIMES 1 (Garcin 72). **Att:** 9,830.

LILLE 2 (Kana-Biyik 13 o.g. Assadourian 17)
LE HAVRE 1 (Rio 70). **Att:** 5,372.

DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Marseille	31	18	8	5	54	28	44
Monaco	31	17	8	6	42	20	42
Bordeaux	31	15	11	5	33	17	41
Paris SG	31	15	10	6	51	23	40
Nantes	31	13	10	8	41	29	36
Strasbourg	31	11	12	8	49	42	34
St Etienne	31	10	14	7	22	17	34
Auxerre	31	14	5	12	45	37	33
Metz	31	9	12	10	34	35	30
Lyon	31	8	14	9	32	33	30
Montpellier	31	11	8	12	28	31	30
Lens	31	8	14	9	26	36	30
Sochaux	31	11	8	13	32	43	29
Caen	31	11	6	14	45	45	28
Toulouse	31	6	15	10	27	34	27
Lille	31	7	12	12	22	37	26
Valenciennes	31	7	11	13	36	45	25
Le Havre	31	7	9	15	32	48	23
Toulon	31	4	12	15	20	45	20
Nimes	31	2	14	15	27	53	18

On the ball . . . St Etienne against Marseille

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 11

WEEKEND

MARSEILLE 2 (Boksic 25, Voller 69)
SOCHAUX 0. **Att:** 15,000.

MONACO 4 (Gnako 7, 51 pen, Perez 60, Revelles 89)
CAEN 2 (Rouissi 43, Germain 74). **Att:** 5,000.

BORDEAUX 2 (Zidane 50, Valdeir 68)
MONTPELLIER 1 (Asanovic 79). **Att:** 18,000.

NIMES 0
PARIS-SG 1 (Bravo 44). **Att:** 8,702.

NANTES 0
ST ETIENNE 0. **Att:** 30,852.

LENS 2 (Omam-Biyik 20, 76)
STRASBOURG 0. **Att:** 16,569.

AUXERRE 3 (Martins 68, Saib 86, Cocard 88)
VALENCIENNES 2 (Robert 12, Le Frapper 44). **Att:** 7,000.

TOULON 1 (Eyraud 70 pen)
METZ 0. **Att:** 1,500.

LYON 1 (Maurice 81)
LILLE 3 (Assadourian 43, 72, Nouma 84). **Att:** 11,116.

LE HAVRE 3 (Gourouli 39, Tiehi 45, Casanova 51 o.g)
TOULOUSE 2 (Ferrer 17, 47). **Att:** 5,673.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 18

WEEKEND

MONTPELLIER 1 (Ferhaoui 75)
MARSEILLE 1 (Boksic 80). **Att:** 17,719.

LILLE 1 (Frandsen 86)
MONACO 1 (Tihy 55 o.g). **Att:** 6,749.

PARIS SG 1 (Ricardo 35)
LE HAVRE 0. **Att:** 20,000.

CAEN 1 (Paille 17 pen)
BORDEAUX 0. **Att:** 7,774.

SOCHAUX 0
NANTES 1 (Capron 22). **Att:** 5,040.

METZ 0
AUXERRE 1 (Prunier 22). **Att:** 8,172.

STRASBOURG 2 (Lebouef 22, Farina 30)
ST. ETIENNE 2 (Kastendeuch 20 pen, E. Mendy 43). **Att:** 24,807.

VALENCIENNES 0
LENS 2 (Dehu 45, Peron 81). **Att:** 14,102.

LYON 1 (Garde 5 pen)
TOULON 1 (Eyraud 27). **Att:** 6,000.

TOULOUSE v NIMES — ***postponed.***

BELGIUM

Waregem chasing the rainbow

WITH Anderlecht dominating the League, the only other interesting points in the last couple of months have been the fight for a UEFA Cup place and the fight against relegation.

Most of the clubs chasing a place in Europe are familiar. Standard Liege, Club Brugge, Mechelen, Beveren and Cup-winners' Cup finalists Antwerp have played in Europe many times. Waregem, a club from the west of Belgium, not far from the French border, are fairly new.

Before the season started Waregem were regarded as a strong relegation candidates. But soon the side coached by coach Paul Theunis (who replaced Rene Verheijen during last year) proved to be too good for most of their opponents.

Waregem succeeded in a unique triple, winning away games against the "big three" — Club Brugge, Standard Liege and Anderlecht.

At home Waregem fared less well. Anderlecht, then with Boskamp as coach, won 2-0 and Club Brugge — three days after the home defeat against Marseille in the Champions League — managed a 1-1 draw.

Waregem were formed in 1946 by an amalgamation of Rode Ster (Red Star) and Sportief. Until now the club had won only one trophy. That was in 1974 when the Cup was won after a 4-2 victory against Tongeren.

Century . . . Weber of Cercle Bruges has completed 100 goals.

The greatest moment in the club's history came in the 1985-86 season when Waregem, after victories against AGF Aarhus, Osasuna, Milan (1-1 at home and then a 2-1 victory at San Siro) and Hajduk Split reached the semi-finals of the UEFA Cup. Sadly they were outclassed by Koln (3-3 in Belgium, 4-0 in Germany).

Two players have been outstanding for Waregem this season: Hendrie Kruzen and Aurelio Vidmar. By the end of April, they were joint second in the Belgian list, both with 19 goals.

Kruzen, a Dutch international, has had many clubs in an impressive career. He started with Heracles, in the Dutch Second Division, moved on to Den Bosch and PSV Eindhoven. Kortrijk were his first Belgian club followed by Club Luik. Last summer he joined Waregem, and he has never played better.

Vidmar had arrived at the Regenboogstadion (Rainbow stadium) at around the same time. He was born in Australia, played for Adelaide City, and then went to Europe. Several Belgian clubs sent him away. Then, after some hesitation, Kortrijk signed him, and now he is enjoying an outstanding season with Waregem.

As so often, foreign players dominate the scoring list. By the end of April there were 10 with 13 goals or more. There were seven foreigners plus Belgian internationals Luc Nilis from Anderlecht and Francis Severeyns and Alex Czerniatynski from Antwerp.

The most productive of them all is Josip Weber, the Croatian with Cercle Brugge who — in the local derby against Club Brugge — recently scored his 100th goal for Cercle. And that after only five seasons in Belgium.

The battle against relegation is interesting too. The two teams who earned promotion last year, Lommel and Boom, are struggling to survive. Their only hope of survival is the fact that Lokeren are having a bad time.

As was to be expected Lommel changed their coach during the season. Pierre Berx had to go and assistant Dany David took over. David is a part-time coach who also works at a bank where he recently won promotion. Therefore he will have to go after this season, leaving Lommel looking for a successor.

A possible candidate is former international Leo Clijsters, who showed some interest — but only if relegation can be avoided.

JAN-HERMEN **DE BRUIJN**

PORTUGAL

Another blow for Robson

SPORTING LISBON manager Bobby Robson suffered "the greatest disappointment of my career" when his club lost to Boavista in the Portuguese Cup semi-final.

With Sporting already out of the league race, Robson was banking on the Cup, but it was not to be.

His team hardly ever got within sight of the opposing penalty area and Boavista — coached by Manuel Jose, once with Sporting — were full value for their win, even though they had to wait until extra time.

Porto and Benfica entered the last lap of the league race level on points, but Porto have a game in hand and appear to have the easier remaining fixtures.

Both teams have brought in some new young players this season, which indicates that they will continue at the top.

Portugal's 5-0 defeat of Scotland increased their hopes of qualifying for the World Cup, and was a record margin in the history of matches between the two nations.

Scotland were unlucky with injuries and were outclassed by a home team playing well above recent form. Powerful defender Oceano was outstanding, and as were Cadete, Futre and Rui Barros.

HOLLAND

Meijer in the money

NOT many people outside Holland knew much about 23-year-old striker Erik Meijer.

But that was because he played for MVV Maastricht, not exactly one of Holland's top clubs.

PSV Eindhoven knew him well and wanted him. So, too, did Stuttgart. The trouble was PSV did not have enough money available to buy him. VfB Stuttgart had. Then followed a remarkable battle against the clock.

Meijer wanted to join PSV, but no offer came. Stuttgart moved in with the kind of terms that Meijer knew would make him a millionaire. Then, one day before Stuttgart expected the signing to go ahead, PSV general manager Kees Ploegsma got permission to pay.

So Meijer became a PSV signing, at around £1,350,000 — some £385,000 below the fee Stuttgart had agreed with MVV.

Even Philips, PSV's owner, have financial problems, as Ploegsma suggested at the time. Meijer was his second new signing, after Swedish international midfielder Klas Ingesson, and Ploegsma has said that more signings would depend on money received for players leaving.

That is why he listed five players who would not be kept on next season, including Zambian international Kalusha Bwalya.

But not everything in Eindhoven is being totted up on an electric calculator. There is good news of the old and the new.

Gerald Vanenburg, their 29-year-old international midfielder, recovered his form and told Ploegsma he no longer wanted a move, but would be happy to stay.

Another midfielder, 18-year-old Rene Klomp, made his European debut, against FC Porto, a week after his first-team debut, against Twente, and was promptly called up by Holland manager Dick Advocaat for the Under-18 team.

For Klomp — and for PSV — it has been a success story. This is his last season in the PSV youth soccer school, where he has been since he was 14. Next season he joins the first-team squad on a full-time contract, as one of the few players who has made his way this far from the school.

Klomp, big and strong, says: "It's all a question of mentality. I can work hard and sometimes talk hard, but maybe that's because I come from the West where life can be tougher."

Also in the West, in Amsterdam to be precise, Ajax have proved that despite the disappointment at the time, failure in Europe — in their case the UEFA Cup — can sometimes be forgotten.

They got their game together again, and gave Feyenoord a 5-0 lesson — in the Feyenoord stadium.

Staying . . . Gerald Vanenburg wants to remain at PSV Eindhoven.

Union across the border

HOLLAND and Belgium are Benelux countries. The Flemish language is in reality a Dutch dialect.

But right now Belgian soccer is going Dutch.

The aim is to establish the first independent Belgian players' union — and they have asked the Dutch union to cross the border and organise one for them.

The Dutch union has existed for

REPUBLIC of IRELAND

Triple tie may lead to law changes

THREE CLUBS finished level on points at the top of the table, for the first time in League of Ireland history.

Bohemians, Cork City and Shelbourne are now playing a home and away mini-League to decide who takes the championship and who gets the UEFA Cup spot.

This is the fourth time that a play-off has been necessary, and Cork clubs have been involved in all of them.

The new format of dividing the League in two after completion of the first home and away phase worked well, with interest maintained right up to the last. But there were too many draws and next season the League are expected to opt for three points for a win, as well as using goal difference to decide the champions in the event of a tie.

Bray Wanderers go down, so do Sligo Rovers, and Waterford play Monaghan United, the third-placed team in the First Division, to settle the remaining promotion/relegation spot.

Galway United came straight back to the Premier Division after a season's absence, and Cobh Ramblers made it at the third attempt. The club, who sold Roy Keane to Nottingham Forest, finished third over the past two seasons.

The FAI Harp Lager Cup Final, between Dundalk and Shelbourne, has been postponed for a week because of television coverage of the Premier League closing stages.

The £1.5 million which the FAI received from the English FA in compensation for BSkyB's live coverage this season will pay for installation of floodlights at 18 League of Ireland grounds.

Sheffield United goalkeepr Alan Kelly (above), who made his debut for the Republic in February, is following in his father's footsteps.

Alan Kelly, senior, kept goal for Preston and won a then-record 47 caps between 1956 and 1973. They are the first father and son keepers to play for the Republic, and the seventh father and son combination to be capped.

SEAN **CREEDON**

NORWAY

Catch 22 Norway's success could backfire on them

NORWAY last reached the World Cup finals in 1938, but their outstanding form in their first four games of the 1994 qualifiers have raised serious hopes about their chances of making it to the United States next summer.

Home and away victories over San Marino (by an aggregate of 12-0), an excellent 2-1 win over Holland in Oslo and a valuable draw with England at Wembley have put Norway top of group two — a group in which England, Holland and Poland were expected to be the main challengers for the two qualifying places available.

So impressive were Egil Olsen's side in those games that a mini-exodus of players, chiefly to England, began and there are now eight current Norwegian internationals with clubs in the Premier League.

But, as Norway prepare to resume their World Cup campaign after a long winter without football, this success is threatening to back fire because many of these imports have struggled to clinch a first-team place and are left in the reserves.

"Losing players to clubs outside Norway is a problem we have always had to live with," said Olsen.

"But the biggest problem is that many of the good players in England are not in the team, and not even on the bench.

"Many of them have developed well from moving outside Norway, but it would have been better for me to have them all in Norway."

Reserve-team football does nothing for the morale and confidence of international players, and Olsen always has said that players who are not playing regularly for their clubs would find it very difficult to get into his team.

Sadly, that is exactly the situation in which Stig Inge Bjornebye (Liverpool), Pal Lydersen (Arsenal), Henning Berg (Blackburn), Erland Johnsen (Chelsea), Frank Strandli (Leeds) and Kare Ingebrigtsen (Manchester City) currently find themselves.

The only ones playing regularly are Oldham defender Gunnar Halle and Tottenham keeper Erik Thorstvedt, who was ruled out of the clash against Turkey with a fractured finger.

Olsen, however, is prepared to give these players a chance and says: "It's not a problem yet and it depends how they play in the national team."

But Olsen, despite the earlier successes and an encouraging 1-1 draw in Portugal last February, is still sceptical about Norway's chances.

"We are capable of qualifying but it will be difficult," he said. "I believe we have a 50-50 chance."

Thorstvedt is equally cautious but believes the spirit within the squad will help those who are struggling to find their form in England.

"The main danger is if the confidence of players who are struggling drops," he said. "We have talked about this and agreed it is important to back each other up.

"There has been some unfair criticism in England of some of the players. They need time to adjust. The English game is fiercely competitive and it took me some time to settle.

"We got off to a perfect start, but I think people have been fooled by our 10-0 win over San Marino. And people have forgotten about Poland."

A 3-1 home victory against Turkey enabled Norway to stay on the road to the US.

Goals by Rekdal, Fjortoft and Jakobsen had the match won early in the second half, and England's failure to defeat Holland left the Norwegians still on top of group two.

They entertain England next June, and then travel to face the Dutch seven days later.

The outcome of those two games will go a long way towards determining what Olsen and his men will be doing in a year's time — flying to America or watching it all on television back home.

KJEL **HOLYN**

many years, and has earned the reputation of being among the best in Europe.

The problem for Belgian players is that they are merely a small part of Sporta, the sports section of the biggest union in Belgium.

There the main concentration is on cyclists, and the need is to establish a union for footballers that gives them more power to demand a better deal from clubs.

The clubs have been very much in charge, so much so that many players have been afraid to say a word against them.

The Dutch chairman, Theo van Seggelen, is in regular contact with FIFPRO, the international organisation for players' unions, and secretary Karel Jansen — one of the best in the business for nearly 30 years — is a member of the Dutch FA committee for professional football.

Belgian players who have been approached on the subject are very much in favour.

And there are plenty of Dutch players in Belgium who can act as co-ordinators.

As with the Dutch in Holland, a big aim of the new Belgian union will be to make life difficult for illegal football agents.

ERIC **NICHOLLS**

TABLES

AUSTRIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Austria Salzburg	29	16	9	4	54	27	27
Austria Vienna	29	16	6	7	59	31	24
Wacker	29	13	10	6	54	26	22
Admira Wacker	29	15	4	10	62	38	22
Rapid	29	12	9	8	44	38	20
St. Polten	29	7	14	8	37	44	17
Sportklub	29	12	5	13	35	52	16
Vorwaerts Steyr	29	9	6	14	33	46	13

HOLLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
PSV Eindhoven	28	20	5	3	70	25	45
Feyenoord	28	18	8	2	64	26	44
Ajax	28	16	9	3	71	23	41
FC Twente	29	15	7	7	57	33	37
Vitesse	29	12	13	4	49	26	37
MVV	29	14	7	8	46	36	35
FC Volendam	29	11	10	8	42	26	32
FC Utrecht	29	9	11	9	36	35	29
RKC	29	10	8	11	43	49	28
FC Groningen	29	9	10	10	30	37	28
Willem II	29	9	8	12	32	32	26
Sparta	29	8	10	11	29	49	26
GA Eagles	29	7	8	14	33	54	22
Roda JC	29	7	7	15	39	54	21
Cambuur	29	4	12	13	32	49	20
Den Bosch	29	5	7	17	31	69	17
Fortuna	30	6	5	19	28	68	17
SVV/Dordrecht	29	3	9	17	20	61	15

BELGIUM

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Anderlecht	30	23	6	1	72	21	52
Standard Liege	31	15	9	7	55	37	39
Waregem	31	15	8	8	70	42	38
Mechelen	30	16	4	10	44	30	36
Club Brugge	31	14	8	9	43	31	36
Antwerp	30	14	6	10	52	40	34
Beveren	31	14	6	11	43	37	34
Charleroi	31	13	8	10	50	44	34
Ghent	30	12	9	9	44	36	33
Molenbeek	31	10	11	10	39	37	31
Lierse	31	12	6	13	41	44	30
Genk	30	8	11	11	35	38	27
FC Liege	31	10	7	14	44	61	27
Cercle Bruges	31	8	9	14	60	70	25
Ekeren	30	9	6	15	48	59	24
Lommel	31	7	4	20	36	72	18
Boom	31	6	5	20	36	88	17
Lokeren	31	4	9	18	27	53	17

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

Group A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bohemians	32	13	14	5	46	19	40
Shelbourne	32	15	10	7	53	29	40
Cork	32	16	8	8	47	34	40
Dundalk	32	13	13	6	35	28	39
Derry	32	11	15	6	26	23	37
Limerick	32	6	15	11	27	31	27

Group B							
St Patrick's	32	7	16	9	27	27	30
Shamrock	32	8	12	12	39	35	28
Drogheda	32	7	13	12	29	41	27
Waterford	32	10	7	15	34	59	27
Sligo	32	6	14	12	16	32	26
Bray	32	5	13	14	19	40	23

NORTHERN IRELAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Linfield	29	20	6	3	49	12	66
Crusaders	29	20	3	6	51	26	63
Bangor	29	19	4	6	57	30	61
Portadown	29	17	9	3	67	26	60
Distillery	29	19	2	8	59	35	59
Glenavon	29	14	5	10	46	34	47
Glentoran	29	13	7	9	68	38	46
Ards	29	12	8	9	45	45	44
Carrick	29	12	2	15	48	69	38
Ballymena	29	10	5	14	40	50	35
Cliftonville	29	10	2	17	41	47	32
Omagh	29	9	5	15	37	55	32
Larne	29	9	2	18	41	59	29
Coleraine	29	5	3	21	27	61	18
Newry	29	4	5	20	26	70	17
Ballyclare	29	2	6	21	26	71	12

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Inter Cardiff	37	26	4	7	79	36	82
Cwmbran	35	23	9	3	62	22	78
Aberystwyth	36	14	3	9	82	46	75
Bangor City	36	18	6	12	73	56	60
Ebbw Vale	36	17	9	10	72	60	60
Holywell Town	37	16	8	13	62	48	56
Conwy United	36	15	9	12	49	48	54
Porthmadog	37	13	11	13	60	49	50
Haverfordwest	34	15	5	14	60	54	50
Afan Lido	35	14	8	13	62	61	50
Caerews	36	12	10	14	58	60	46
Connah's Quay	33	14	4	15	59	64	46
Mold Alex*	35	15	3	17	58	53	45
Llanelli	35	11	8	16	48	58	41
Maesteg Park	36	9	12	15	49	53	39
Briton Ferry	36	10	8	18	60	84	38
Flint Town	36	10	6	20	43	62	36
Newtown	36	7	9	20	50	86	30
Llanidloes	35	7	9	19	44	82	30
Abergavenny	37	7	7	23	36	74	28

* = *Three points deducted.*

MALTA

Floriana earn top mark

FLORIANA are the Maltese champions, for the 25th time.

They finally took the title thanks to their 2-0 victory over Rabat Ajax — and to a helping hand from St. Andrew's, who beat close rivals Hamrun Spartans 2-1.

A week later the new champions were rather surprisingly held 1-1 by relegated Mellieha — just to show how bizarre Maltese football can be at times.

Floriana (right), expertly guided by English player-coach Mark Miller, return to compete in the Champions' Cup next season after an absence of 16 years.

The runners-up battle hotted up when Hamrun recovered to complete Sliema's misery, beating them 3-1.

Valletta followed suit by winning 3-0 against St. Andrew's, with Brian Talbot's promising Hibernians beating Mellieha 3-0 to move into second spot.

St. George's, still hanging on to a lifeline, waved goodbye to the Premier Division when they went down 7-0 against Rabat Ajax. They accompany Mellieha back to the First Division.

Zurrieq are set to return to the Premier after one season, while the battle for the other promotion place is still raging on between Marsa and Mqabba.

Karl Zacchau of Hibs remains top marksman with 20 goals, followed by Stefan Sultana of Hamrun with 15 and Floriana's Brian Crawley with 12.

DOMENICO **AQUILINA**

GREECE

One for the legends

THE Greek national team have never had such an opportunity to qualify for the World Cup.

FIFA's ban on war-torn Yugoslavia, plus weak Russian and Hungarian squads, have given Greece the chance of a lifetime.

A second-half penalty by Stratos Apostolakis provided a 1-0 victory in Hungary and virtually clinched a ticket to the United States.

"The dark days of Greek soccer have ended," said coach Alketas Panagoulias. "The team played for themselves, for me, for the legends of Greek soccer and for the future of Greek soccer.

"We still need a lot of work, but I can safely say that we have opened the way for worldwide recognition."

Panagoulias was in charge when Greece reached the finals of the European Championship in 1980.

The Greek Soccer Federation, in an effort to help the team, announced that the 1993-1994 First Division season will begin earlier than usual, on August 22 or 29.

Panathinaikos and AEK continued their neck-and-neck battle towards the league crown.

AEK beat their rivals 4-1, their first home victory against Panathinaikos in 10 years, and led by a point, but lost to Olympiakos in the League Cup semi-finals.

Celebrating . . . Apostolakis.

Panathinaikos defeated Apollon in the other semi-final.

Larisa officials tried to confiscate the Olympiakos team bus after a match between the clubs, demanding money allegedly owed for the transfer of Vasilis Karapialis.

After heated discussions, Larisa agreed to wait another two months for the money, and finally let the bus leave with the players inside.

LOU **ECONOMOPOULOS**

ISRAEL

Eli still on the ball

BETAR JERSUALEM have taken Israeli soccer by storm this season, chasing the senior title only a year after being promoted.

Hapoel Ramat Gan are the only club to achieve this double, in the early 1960s.

Eli Ohana's return to form has had a great deal to do with Betar's success. Striker Ohana, who had spells with Mechelen in Belgium and Braga in Portugal, has shown that he is still a class player, even though nearly 30.

Ohana is now back in the national squad, after he had been banned for three years, with Ronny Rosenthal and Shalom Tikva, for refusing to play in a friendly against the former Soviet Union in 1990.

The twin attacking force of Ohana and Ronan Harazi has kept Betar in the forefront all season, despite the challenge of Maccabi Tel Aviv. The club also owe a lot to Dror Kashtan, still the coach six years after leading Betar to their first championship.

Even so, Allon Mizrahi of Bnei Yehuda seems sure to finish as top scorer for the second successive season. He scored 20 goals last time, although he missed several matches after being injured, and 21 in his first 28 appearances this time.

MARK **RIVLIN**

TURKEY

Kocaeli cause a stir as climax boils up

THE championship race has been boiling up to a desperately close climax in recent weeks, with five clubs involved.

They include Kocaelispor, seeking to win titles in successive seasons after topping the Second Division last time by a margin of 23 points.

Kocaeli, from Izmit, some 50 miles from Istanbul and often confused with Izmir, have continued to do well this season, losing only three of their first 25 League games.

Galatasaray have a strong chance of completing the double, after beating Besiktas in the Cup Final.

Erdal's goal gave Galatasaray victory in the first leg, and Hakan and Arif scored in the first half-hour of the second leg.

After that, fouls grew at frightening speed, with Galatasaray having Suat sent off after 27 minutes and Gotz following him with an hour gone.

By then Feyyaz had pulled a goal back, but Besiktas could not score against nine men until they in turn were reduced to ten, when Kadir was sent off. Ulvi then made the score 2-2, but Gala held on to win on aggregate.

So German coach Kalli Feldkamp has won a trophy in his first season . . . but matters are not so happy for Joszef Venglos at Fenerbahce.

A 4-1 defeat by Galatasaray was the third loss in a row, leading to a pitch invasion and calls for Venglos and the president, Metin Asak, to resign. Venglos now seems certain to return to Slovakia.

Fenerbahce have been unlucky with injuries, notably to top scorer Aykut and goalkeeper Engin — hurt during the disappointing 2-0 defeat by England in a World Cup qualifier — but that does not totally explain the lapses.

Besiktas have been feeling the strain of going for a fourth successive title.

A week after their Cup exit they lost 2-1 at home to Trabzonspor.

HASAN **CEMALI**

TABLES

DENMARK

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
FC Copenhagen	3	2	1	0	6	2	19
OB Odense	3	2	1	0	5	2	17
Brondby	3	1	1	1	4	3	14
AaB Aalborg	3	0	2	1	2	3	13
Silkeborg	3	1	1	1	3	4	13
AGF Aarhus	3	1	1	1	6	6	13
Naestved	3	0	1	2	2	5	11
Lyngby	3	1	0	2	1	3	10

SWITZERLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Young Boys	7	3	2	2	9	6	22
Aarau	7	4	2	1	8	3	22
Servette	7	3	1	3	10	11	21
Zurich	7	2	3	2	4	6	19
Lugano	7	3	2	2	6	5	19
Sion	7	2	1	4	8	10	18
Neuchatel	7	2	2	3	9	10	17
Lausanne	7	2	1	4	7	10	17

GREECE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AEK	29	20	6	3	66	24	66
Panathinaikos	29	20	5	4	68	16	65
OFI Crete	29	17	7	5	53	24	58
Olympiakos	29	16	8	5	56	25	56
Iraklis	29	15	7	7	44	33	52
PAOK	29	14	5	10	45	35	47
Aris	29	11	5	13	37	37	38
Xanthi	29	10	7	12	48	55	37
Athinaikos	29	8	12	9	25	28	36
Larissa	29	9	9	11	26	30	36
Panachaiki	29	9	8	12	34	38	35
Apollon	29	9	5	15	22	42	32
Doxa Drama	29	7	8	14	27	48	29
Edessaikos	29	7	8	14	33	54	29
Ionikos	29	7	6	16	26	42	27
Kalamaria	29	5	12	12	24	41	27
Pierikos	29	6	7	16	26	53	25
Corinthos	29	4	9	16	22	50	21

PORTUGAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
FC Porto	26	19	4	3	47	13	42
Benfica	27	18	6	3	46	14	42
Sporting	27	13	9	5	40	19	35
Maritimo	27	12	6	9	43	32	30
Boavista	27	10	10	7	32	27	30
Belenenses	27	10	10	7	29	25	30
Guimaraes	27	12	3	12	30	35	27
Farense	26	8	10	8	30	26	26
Beira-Mar	27	8	10	9	18	23	26
Famalicao	27	8	9	10	23	31	25
Pacos Ferreira	27	8	9	10	26	37	25
Gil Vicente	27	9	6	12	26	33	24
Estoril	27	7	9	11	24	35	23
Espinho	27	7	8	12	29	44	22
Spt. Braga	27	8	5	14	21	27	21
Tirsense	27	7	7	13	20	31	21
Salgueiros	27	6	8	13	20	37	20
Chaves	27	4	7	16	30	45	15

ISRAEL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bet. Jerusalem	29	19	5	5	57	32	62
Mac. Tel Aviv	29	16	8	5	62	33	56
Bnei Yehuda	29	15	5	9	54	47	50
Hap. Beersheba	29	11	9	9	37	35	42
Mac. Haifa	29	10	10	9	46	38	40
Hap. Haifa	29	11	7	11	39	39	40
Mac. Petah Tikva	29	8	11	10	38	43	35
Hap. Tel Aviv	29	9	8	12	46	52	35
Hap. Holon	29	10	5	14	39	45	35
Mac. Netanya	29	9	6	14	31	53	33
Hap. Petah Tikva	29	7	5	17	36	43	26
Bet. Tel Aviv	29	6	7	16	27	52	25

MALTA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Floriana	17	12	3	2	33	12	27
Hibernians	16	9	3	4	42	24	21
Valletta	16	9	3	4	27	21	21
Hamrun Sptns	16	9	2	5	39	22	20
St. Andrew's	16	7	4	5	37	27	18
Rabat Ajax	17	6	3	8	30	34	15
Sliema Wand.	16	6	2	8	24	28	14
Birkirkara	16	5	3	8	20	30	13
St. George's	17	3	3	11	17	43	9
Mellieha	17	2	2	13	13	41	6

Befifica's Paula Futre

SPO

LIGHT ON

Sergei KIRIAKOV

HIS hobbies are driving luxury cars and watching Italian football on video — a pointer perhaps to the future for Russian striker Sergei Kiriakov, who has been making headlines in Germany this year.

A leading sports paper described 23-year-old Kiriakov as the most dynamic forward in the Bundesliga, who "came, saw and exploded".

He was voted No. 1 among the 24 foreigners engaged by the First Division clubs and now, according to well-informed sources, European champions Barcelona have turned their attention to Kiriakov and have had him watched several times.

Now his club Karlsruher SC, are talking of a £6 million fee for the man his team-mates call Kiki. This would make him the most expensive player in the history of German football, and to think that he cost only £670,000 when transferred from Moscow Dynamo last summer.

Of all the leading players from the former Soviet Union now with Western European clubs, ginger-haired Kiriakov is the only consistent scorer to make the breakthrough in a top league.

His main assets are mobility, dribbling skill, accurate crosses and shooting power. He is not exactly modest when he says: "I am as good as any striker in the league. I helped Karlsruhe to move up and become well placed to reach the UEFA Cup."

Karlsruhe's best ranking since promotion in 1987 was eighth. Amazingly his transfer was concluded only after Karlsruhe's team manager, Winfried Schafter, saw Kiriakov not in a match but during half-time in the European Championship tie between Germany and the CIS in Sweden last June.

Half-time hit-man

How a striker's life changed in 15 minutes

For 15 minutes the Russian reserves were warming up on the pitch, and Schafter says: "Kiriakov was sensational in his movements, speed off the mark and phenomenal shooting from any range."

What he saw in those few moments in Sweden decided him, even though Kiriakov played only half of Russia's final match in the competition.

Sergei Kiriakov was born on January 1, 1970, in Orjol, 180 miles south of Moscow.

His family, by Russian standards, are fairly well off — father is an engineer, mother a kindergarten teacher, brother Yegor, 19, plays for Moscow Dynamo. Sergei joined the Moscow Sports School at 13. A year later he signed for Spartak and at 18 he went to Dynamo.

Subsequently he played at every youth level, including 30 internationals, and won the European Under-19 and Under- 21 championship titles.

"These were my biggest successes to date," he says proudly. "The last manager of the CIS, Anatoly Byshovets, encouraged me in my teens when he was in charge of Dynamo."

Back in March 1992 Stuttgart invited Kiriakov for a trial, but could not make up their minds about him. Then neighbours Karlsruhe stepped in and just before the European Championship ended, and without a test, struck a deal which is proving quite inspirational.

Sold as seen . . . Karlsruhe coach Winfried Schafter (above) signed Kiriakov (right) without seeing him play a full match.

"I have rejected several other approaches," he says.

"My contract has until 1995 to run and unless I get a better offer, I'm staying. I like it in Karlsruhe, but my goal is to eventually join a prominent club in Italy or Spain, one playing in European events.

"I could earn more there. But I would think very hard before making a decision."

Kiki is not worried about the culture shock which is afflicting most of his compatriots who arrive in the affluent West and cannot come to terms with the language, customs, and high standard of living.

"This doesn't worry me — I was quite well off as a footballer in Moscow," he says. "I ran a Ford Scorpio, then a Fiat Tipo, earned five times as much as the average worker and lived in a fine flat."

His other hobbies are playing cards and going for walks with his wife Inna and daughter Gsejusha.

He also underlines that he is still close to his family in Russia: "I phone my parents quite frequently, and I visited them at Christmas in Orjol. Most of my friends are footballers and nearly all of them dream of a career like mine."

And what are his immediate targets?

"I want to qualify with Karlsruhe for an international competition, and to help Russia to reach the 1994 World Cup finals."

Russia's new team manager, Pavel Sadyrin, says: "On present form Kiriakov should have little trouble adding to his ten caps. Young Sergei is our key man, a rare jewel among strikers."

PENTTI **HIETANEN**

CZECH REPUBLIC

Slovan in contention

ALL is not over in the last "combined" championship before Czech football goes its own way in the future.

The decline of Slovan and Dunajska Streda has enabled Slavia to top the table, and perhaps Sparta, the favourites, may not qualify for the Champions' Cup next season.

Whether the League race or qualifying for the US is of greater interest is currently a moot point.

A clear victory over Wales is crucial if Jezek's men of two nations are to maintain interest in the 1994 World Cup, but after the match in Ostrava there remain five further ties, including difficult away games in Cardiff and Brussels next autumn.

Whether the foreign-based players will have the appetite for the campaign after losing a vital point in Cyprus looks doubtful.

Meanwhile, Second Division Viktoria Zizkov look likely to reach the top class as champions.

SLOVAKIA

Venglos returns

CURRENT Fenerbahce manager Jozef Venglos (right) will come back from Turkey when the season ends.

He will take over as team coach for the Slovak Football Federation, now gearing up in Bratislava for official internationals and the new National League, due to begin this autumn.

Venglos will be assisted by a former Czechoslovak Footballer of the Year, Jan Kocian, who is winding down from a Bundesliga career ended by injury.

Whether the Federation are wise in appointing an old hand such as Venglos remains to be seen.

One wonders if he might not be more useful as FA President and as a senior statesmen in FIFA and UEFA circles, where he is well-known.

The officials at headquarters in Bratislava are not, and appear to operate only in their own language.

Some small clubs will be competing in the new league but possibly a well-integrated national team can be formed around Slovan, where Venglos once coached and managed.

The Slovak international programme begins after the conclusion of the Combined XI's World Cup campaign in mid-November.

BOB **VAUGHAN**

ALBANIA

Taho's back in style

RAP TAHO, the Flamurtari defender who retired two years ago, has made a remarkable return to soccer at the age of 34.

The club won four, drew four and lost only to leaders Partizani in Taho's first nine matches, and his form was so good that he was recalled to the Albanian squad for the World Cup match which the Lithuanians won 3-1.

Partizani are on course for a 15th championship, after two impressive performances against their closest rivals.

A 1-0 away win over defending champions Vllaznia was followed by a 1-1 draw with Besa.

So Partizani maintained a four-point lead over Besa, with Vllaznia two points further away. Both goals in those games were scored by Artan Bano, signed from Lushnja at the start of the season and now in the national squad.

Attendances have improved as hooligan violence has diminshed. The 1-1 draw between near neighbours Albpetrol of Patosi and Apolonia of Fier attracted the season's highest gate,15,000.

GEZIM **NUSHI**

BULGARIA

Penev is peeved

DIMITAR PENEV'S squad, holding second place in their World Cup group and with all to play for, entered the renamed Ernst Happel Stadion as favourites.

Austria's improvement against France two weeks previous, however, meant a more difficult tie than perhaps expected a month earlier, and things began badly for the Bulgarians.

The band played the "wrong" national anthem and goals by Pfeifenberg and Kuehbauer gave Austria cause to smile.

Penev's two home-based defenders, Bezinski (CSKA) and Iliev (Levski) and their nine "export" colleagues looked at all sea and the result could have been worse but for good work by the Mulhouse keeper Michailov.

A second-half revival brought a goal for Bulgaria, who have never beaten Austria home or away, but the home team were not to be denied.

A solo run and close-range finish by Polster in the final moments were the last straw for Penev.

International action . . . Kostadinov against Austria.

When interviewed for *WORLD SOCCER* after the game, and generously congratulating beaming Austrian boss Prohaska, he said his team had not played as instructed and he was not at all pleased with the lack of discipline.

"The Austrians had the advantage of a largely home-based squad," Penev added.

"Until this game our World Cup campaign had been going well.

"The players I expect to perform on these occasions did not show their class. We woke up too late and I am only satisfied with the goalkeeper and one other player."

French manager Gerard Houllier, co-commentator for television, was the real victor of the evening, but there is still a long way to go.

Bulgaria can be back in with a shout if four points can be taken in Sofia from Finland and Israel.

BOB **VAUGHAN**

ROMANIA

All set for the States

ROMANIA found what the Czechs had found — Cyprus would not go quietly.

For a time in Bucharest it looked as if the home team might have to settle for only one World Cup qualifying point.

Fortunately for Comel Dinu and his squad, Dumitrescu followed his equaliser with what proved to be the winner ten minutes after half-time.

Cyrpus had taken the lead but eventually class told and Romania march on, to a home game with the Faroes, in second place. The big test comes with the visit to Bohemia or Slovakia on June 2, when a win probably would eliminate the Combined Team.

Although still trailing Belgium by three points, Romania look a good bet for second spot and a place in the US.

On the domestic front, Dinamo squeezed a point ahead of Steaua, still trying to overcome shock European elimination by Antwerp.

Steaua are likely to remain in international football next season. "Divize A" clubs are competing for three UEFA Cup places and Steaua, currently second, are 14 points ahead of fifth-placed Gloria Bistrita, who challenge "U" Craiova and Rapid for the other European spots.

Craiova picked up useful points at Cluj through a 2-0 victory which leaves the promoted club in mid-table.

Resita, who also came up last season, look to be on their way back, but the third promoted club, Progresul Bucharest, may just scrape clear of relegation.

POLAND

Violence, for a change

POLISH football, like the rest of society in the country, seems to be catching up with Western Europe.

Both first legs in the semi-finals of the Polish Cup were affected by crowd violence — largely unknown in the country before now — notably in the match between Legia Warsaw and GKS Katowice.

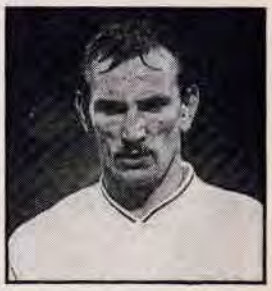
Just before half-time about 2,000 fans and 500 police clashed on the terraces, with seats used as weapons and the authorities responding with batons, shields and dogs.

The second half was played with half of Legia Stadium looking like a war zone, and fans went on the rampage again after the match, despite pleas over the public address system.

Katowice were rather surprising 1-0 winners, with international defender Roman Szewczyk (right) outstanding.

In the other semi-final, Third Divison Ruch II held Slask to a draw in Wroclaw, in a match played behind closed doors because of previous violence.

Lech Poznan have fallen away badly in the League, and Legia Warsaw have gone to the front, two points ahead of Ruch Chorzow and



Widzew Lodz, with Lech Poznan and LKS Lodz two points further behind.

The national team face their biggest test of 1993 when they meet England on May 29.

JAMES **WALKER**

YUGOSLAVIA

Red Star blues

TWO years ago Red Star Belgrade won the Champions' Cup and the most successful club in Yugoslavia looked set for a glorious future.

But war in the Balkans and international sanctions against Yugoslavia have crippled the club, leaving them isolated, short of cash and depleted by a mass exodus of players to the west.

Vladimir Cvetkovic, Serbian sports minister and a Red Star director, said: "We had an excellent generation of players which once made us the best club in the world.

"As soon as we got this generation, we were hit by sanctions and we are still waiting for a new generation of soccer aces."

That Champions' Cup Final victory, against Marseille in May 1991, sparked scenes of wild celebration in the Serbian capital Belgrade, with thousands of fans waving flags and firing guns — a scene all too familiar in what remains of Yugoslavia today.

Six months later Red Star beat Colo Colo 3-0 in the World Club Cup to become champions of the world.

But Red Star were about to enter a period of problems because fighting had erupted in neighbouring Croatia.

UEFA ordered Red Star to play all its matches in the 1991-92 Champions' Cup outside Yugoslavia, a massive handicap which cost the club an estimated $9.5 million in lost revenue from gate receipts and elimination at the semi-final group stage.

Worse was to follow. The club were barred from European competitions and from playing matches abroad when the United Nations imposed sanctions in May 1992, as punishment on Yugoslavia for its involvement in the internecine fighting which had spread into Bosnia.

Ljubomir Petrovic, the coach who had masterminded the Champions' Cup and World Club Cup successes left and was soon followed by the players.

Robert Prosinecki joined Real Madrid, Dejan Savicevic went to Milan, Darko Pancev moved to Internazionale, Vladimir Jugovic signed for Sampdoria and Sinisa Mihajlovic joined AS Roma.

Goalkeeper Stevan Stojanovic, Dragisa Binic, Refik Sabanadzovic, Miodrag Belodedic and many others also moved on.

Doubtless many of Red Star's top players would have gone anyway after such outstanding displays in Europe, but the club's officials claim that even reserves moved.

"Red Star ruled for more than 20 years but there was no way we could keep our players under sanctions," said Miljan Miljanic, head of the Yugoslav FA and a former Red Star player and coach.

"It was like suffering a heart attack, and a by-pass operation is needed to create a new, good team."

Today Red Star's average home gates have dropped to around 10,000 because their opponents in the league — minus clubs from Croatia, Slovenia, Macedonia and Bosnia — are mostly weak, unglamorous small-town sides.

DRAGAN **MIHANIC**

BOSNIA

Goals in the graveyards

ONE of Sarajevo's soccer grounds has just fallen into enemy territory. Another has become a cemetery. Snipers have turned others into no-go areas.

Somehow, though, the besieged city plays on. Kids find a sheltered street and kick a ball past junked automobiles. Soldiers take a break from wartime duties to play indoor soccer on a basketball court in a battered sports complex.

"The main reason we play is because it's an escape," said Nenad Cecur, 29, catching his breath of the pitch. "The score isn't important."

Bosnia has been at war for the entire 12 months of independence. Sports facilities are in ruins, athletes serve as soldiers, and the nation's only international competitors train and play in exile.

Sarajevans are proud of their city's history as the host of the 1984 Winter Olympics, but many of the sites are battlegrounds now. The biggest source of sporting pride now is the national soccer team, comprised of Bosnians who play for pro clubs across Europe.

The team have played a few fund-raising friendlies, helped by Safet Susic, who played for many seasons with Paris Saint-Germain, and Faruk Hadzibegic, who captained Yugoslavia's 1990 World Cup team.

"I can't forget the war," said Nihad Baljak, an official with FK Sarajevo. "But when I saw the national team, I could hardly breathe, I was so excited."

An extra source of pride, Baljak said, is that the team reflect the same ethnic mix that Sarajevo is fighting to preserve, with the players including Muslims, Croats and Serbs still loyal to Bosnia despite the war waged by Bosnian Serb nationalists.

FK Sarajevo continues to operate a youth programme despite the lack of outdoor playing areas, and about 100 boys aged 12-16 train three times a week in a gym. They may be the core of a future Bosnian League.

Five of the 18 teams in the disbanded Yugoslav League were based in Bosnia, and Baljak said five of the 1990 Yugoslav World Cup team were Bosnians.

Medals were not needed as incentives for Cecur and co-workers from Sarajevo's munitions factory, running themselves into exhaustion during one of their twice-weekly indoor soccer games.

"All things considered, despite the bad food, we're in pretty good shape," Cecur said.

HUNGARY

Puskas returns as Jenei goes

HUNGARY, in a rushed nervous move, appointed legendary Ferenc Puskas (above) as caretaker manager, having dismissed Imre Jenei following the national team's 1-0 home defeat by Greece in a World Cup qualifying match.

That score left the Hungarians having to accept that, once again, they will not be among the world's best in the United States a year from now. Kalman Mezsoly was sounded out to replace Jenei, but at a meeting of the Hungarian FA Puskas was named as temporary manager.

At the same time the manager of Vasas, Dr Ferenc Genzwein, relieved himself of the post, because of a stomach illness, and this left Mezsoly in a void because he had earlier told Vasas that he might be required elsewhere.

Whoever they appoint permanently to replace Puskas — Dr Gyorgy Mezey is too disenchanted with the Hungarian administration — it seems they cannot accept another footballing truth.

Jenei moulded a fine Romanian team for the 1990 World Cup finals. He used the best Hungarian players available in a one-year, 14-match stint of a contract due to expire a year hence.

That his teams lost their two World Cup home matches, that they could not score against Israel and the United States in friendlies, that they managed only 18 goals in those 14 games, surely suggests that the players, however willing, are not good enough to be finalists.

They have not been helped by the number of managers they have played under, a significant contributing factor to the country's mediocre performances since the 1986 World Cup.

Managers, and players, need time to settle, to develop and test a relationship, to gain trust. Uneven results are likely when such a relationship is threatened.

Puskas, whose first coaching success was as distant as 22 years ago with European Champions' Cup finalists Panathinaikos, may pass on some tips to a different generation, but would need to change his whole philosophy to accept modern playing styles and systems.

Put another way, Hungary do not have the players to play the game as he and his contemporaries did. His first selection lost 2-0 at home to Sweden in a friendly. A mere 4,000 bothered to turn up.

BRIAN **O'SULLIVAN**

TABLES

ALBANIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Partizani	24	14	8	2	40	16	36
Besa	24	12	8	4	31	16	32
Vllaznia	24	12	6	6	33	18	30
Teuta	24	11	7	6	26	17	29
Dinamo	24	10	8	6	29	25	28
Elbasani	24	9	7	8	30	23	25
Albpetrol	24	9	7	8	32	36	25
Apolonia	24	6	10	8	34	35	22
Sopoti	24	8	6	10	30	34	22
Laci	24	8	6	10	18	27	22
Tirana	24	6	9	9	21	20	21
Lushnja	24	7	6	11	22	29	20
Flamurtari	24	5	9	10	15	26	19
Kastrioti	24	5	8	11	20	26	18
Tomori	24	8	2	14	21	45	18
Pogradeci	24	6	5	13	20	29	17

BULGARIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Levski	24	20	3	1	66	17	43
CSKA	24	15	6	3	50	17	36
Botev	24	12	5	7	40	25	29
Lok. Sofia	24	9	11	4	45	32	29
Etur	24	10	7	7	26	26	27
Lok. Plovdiv	24	11	4	9	41	25	26
Pirin	24	9	7	8	21	24	25
Chernomorets	24	9	6	9	24	24	24
Lokomotiv G.O.	24	7	8	9	22	27	22
Beroe	24	7	7	10	20	26	21
Dobrudja	24	8	3	13	28	44	19
Spartak	24	7	5	12	21	38	19
Slavia	24	7	4	13	33	45	18
Sliven	24	6	1	17	22	43	13
Haskovo	24	5	2	16	24	50	13

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sparta Prague	23	16	2	5	44	19	34
Slavia Prague	23	14	5	4	53	20	33
Slovan Bratislava	23	15	2	6	45	26	32
Dunajska Streda	24	13	4	7	39	26	30
Sigma Olomouc	23	11	4	8	31	29	26
FC Boby Brno	24	11	4	9	32	36	26
Banik Ostrava	24	8	9	7	37	30	25
Inter Bratislava	24	11	2	11	40	36	24
FC Nitra	24	6	11	7	24	30	23
Hradec Kralove	24	8	6	10	26	28	22
Tatran Presov	24	7	7	10	31	33	21
TJ Vitkovice	23	8	5	10	22	29	21
SK Budejovice	22	7	4	11	24	24	18
Bohemians	24	4	8	12	16	39	16
Spartak Trnava	23	3	7	13	18	44	13
Dukla Prague	24	4	4	16	26	59	12

HUNGARY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Vac	23	15	4	4	38	19	34
Kispest-Honved	23	14	5	4	36	21	33
Ferencvaros	22	15	2	5	33	17	32
Videton	23	13	3	7	35	25	29
MTK	23	9	7	7	36	27	25
Bekescsaba	22	8	9	5	30	24	25
Csepel	23	9	5	9	23	24	23
PMSC	23	8	4	11	27	29	20
Vasas	23	6	8	9	24	27	20
Raba ETO	23	6	8	9	25	30	20
Diosgyori	23	7	6	10	21	30	20
Siofok	23	7	5	11	24	31	19
BVSC	23	6	6	11	18	26	18
Ujpesti TE	23	3	10	10	21	31	16
Nyiregyhaza	23	3	10	10	14	27	16
Veszprem	23	5	6	12	21	38	16'

POLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Legia Warsaw	25	15	5	5	37	20	36
Widzew Lodz	25	13	8	4	50	18	34
Ruch Chorzow	25	14	6	5	44	18	34
Lech Poznan	25	11	10	4	49	20	33
LKS Lodz	24	12	8	4	35	24	32
Zaglebie Lubin	25	10	9	6	39	22	29
Stal Mielec	25	8	13	4	30	17	29
Wisla Krakow	25	9	9	7	40	28	27
Pogon Szczecin	25	9	9	7	26	26	27
GKS Katowice	24	9	8	7	34	23	26
Gornik Zabrze	24	7	11	6	29	27	25
Siarka Tarnobrzeg	25	7	7	11	25	34	21
Hutnik Krakow	24	4	10	10	26	35	18
Z. Bydgoszcz	25	6	6	13	24	48	18
Slask Wroclaw	25	6	5	14	24	53	17
Szombierki Bytom	25	5	6	14	23	44	16
Olimpia Poznan	25	5	6	14	18	39	16
J. Bialystok	25	2	5	18	22	61	9

ROMANIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Steaua	25	19	4	2	59	14	42
Dinamo	25	18	5	2	58	17	41
Rapid	25	13	5	7	32	25	31
Univ. Craiova	25	11	8	6	36	26	30
Electro. Craiova	25	11	5	9	23	20	27
Gloria Bistrita	25	12	3	10	34	28	27
Spt Studentesc	25	10	6	9	32	32	26
Otelul Galati	25	11	4	10	26	27	26
Univ. Cluj	25	12	1	12	32	32	25
FC Inter Sibiu	25	9	7	9	31	33	25
Dacia Un. Braila	25	8	6	11	25	30	22
Farul Constanta	25	9	4	12	34	44	22
FC Brasov	25	8	5	12	22	32	21
Poli. Timisoara	25	6	8	11	21	35	20
Progresul	25	6	7	12	25	40	19
Petrolul Ploiesti	25	8	1	16	31	36	17
Selena Bacau	25	5	6	14	14	34	16
CSM Resita	25	5	3	17	25	55	13

CUP-WINNERS' CUP

Antwerp v Parma

Novice Chase

PREVIEW BY KEIR **RADNEDGE**

Three of the best . . . Antwerp's Lehnhoff (above), Czerniatynski (right) and Severeyns (below)

PARMA will be clear favourites to succeed for Italy where Sampdoria failed last year.

At Wembley 12 months ago Sampdoria lost 1-0 to Barcelona in the Champions' Cup Final. But they were up against more skilled, more refined and — ultimately — more inspired opposition in Barcelona.

That can hardly be said about Antwerp, the journeymen professionals from Belgium who have reached the Final by one of the most tortuous and tight routes imaginable.

Whoever wins, a new name will be inscribed on the trophy. But not only are Parma and Antwerp unrecognised in the European hall of fame, neither club has ever before even reached a final. Indeed, Parma only emerged into the international spotlight with a lively UEFA Cup campaign a season ago.

Parma will benefit from the more intense Italian support at Wembley and from a generally higher degree of all-round class. Minotti and Di Chiara are experienced, reliable defenders, Belgium's Grun is a man of vast experience, Melli, Brolin and Asprilla are forwards each with talent enough to take apart any opposition.

Melli will have gained in his recent — long-overdue — selection for the Italian national team, Brolin has recovered from his knee troubles of last autumn and Asprilla is expected to have recovered from a mysterious injury suffered when on holiday in Colombia recently.

Asprilla is the most exciting talent likely to be on view. He has power, strength, control and pace and a most powerful shot — as he proved not only in ending Milan's unbeaten League run but with a remarkable solo goal the same week against Sparta Prague in the Cup-winners' quarter-final.

Antwerp will lean on their teamwork, on the footballing commonsense of Lehnhoff in midfield and the attacking combination of veteran internationals Czerniatynski and Severeyns.

Nico Claesen may also remind a few neutral English fans of the incisively irritating skills he displayed all too inconsistently for a while with Tottenham.

Parma never managed more than two

ANTWERP

THE COACH

Walter MEEUWS.
Aged 41 (born July 11, 1951).
Took over Antwerp last summer after a short spell as national boss during the last World Cup qualifiers.

THE PLAYERS

Stevan STOJANOVIC.
Goalkeeper.
Aged 28 (born October 19, 1964).
Yugoslav keeper who won the Champions' Cup with Red Star Belgrade in 1991 against Marseille in Bari. Stojanovic joined Antwerp only weeks later but injuries and poor form meant he played only six times in his first league season in Belgium.

Wim DE CONINCK.
Goalkeeper.
Aged 33 (born June 23, 1959).
Long-serving keeper with nearly 400 Belgian league appearances to his credit. Joined Antwerp orginally from Waregem.

Rudi SMIDTS.
Left-back.
Aged 28 (born August 12, 1963) with five caps (one goal).
Regular first-choice for Belgium this season in the World Cup qualifiers. Made his national team debut only last September against Czechoslovakia.

Didier SEGERS.
Defender.
Aged 28 (born February 21, 1965).
Joined Antwerp last summer from Lierse. Played previously for RWD Molenbeek and Stade Leuven.

Nico BROCKAERT.
Defender.
Aged 32 (born November 23, 1960).
Impressive in Europe both this season and when Antwerp reached the UEFA Cup quarter-finals in 1990.

Rudy TAEYMANS.
Defender.
Aged 26 (born February 8, 1967).
Acquired last summer from Second Division Deurne OB. Sent off in the quarter-final defeat of Steaua Bucharest.

Geert EMMERECHTS.
Defender.
Aged 25 (born May 6, 1966) with one cap.
Former international who can play at full-back or in central defence. Joined Antwerp from RWD Molenbeek in 1988.

Ronny VAN RETHY.
Defender.
Aged 31 (born November 21, 1961).
Another loyal club servant who joined Antwerp originally from Beringen and has played nearly 300 league matches.

Patrick VAN VEIRDEGHEM.
Defender.
Aged 30 (born January 9, 1963).
Strongman defender signed from Lokeren four years ago.

Zsolt MUSNAY.
Midfield.
Aged 27 (born June 20, 1965) with six caps for Romania.
Made his name originally in his native Romania with Bihor Oradea, joined Steaua Bucharest and played for them in the Champions' Cup before going to his family home, Hungary, to play briefly for Videoton.

Kari UKKONEN.
Midfield/defender.
Aged 32 (born February 18, 1961) with 54 caps for Finland.
International stalwart for Finland who began with KuPs but has spent the last 12 seasons in Belgium with Cercle Bruges, Anderlecht and Antwerp. Can play midfield or centre of defence.

Nouredine MOUKRIM.
Midfield.
Aged 27 (born February 16, 1968) with six caps for Morocco.
Joined Antwerp a year ago from former African champions Racing Jet.

Ronny VAN GENEUGDEN.
Midfield.
Aged 24 (born August 17, 1968).
Began in the Belgian Second Division with Waterschei, spent an unhappy season in Holland with RKC Waalwijk and returned home to Antwerp in the summer of 1989.

Hans Peter LEHNHOFF.
Midfield.
Aged 29 (born July 12, 1963).
German all-rounder, and Antwerp's outstanding player last season. Played previously for Alemannia Aachen and Koln in the Bundesliga before making his home in Antwerp six years ago. He has played nearly 200 Belgian league games.

Wim KIEKENS.
Midfield.
Aged 28 (born February 25, 1968).
Experienced defender or midfielder who played for RWD Molenbeek before joining Antwerp in 1989.

Dragan JAKOVLJEVIC.
Midfield.
Aged 31 (born February 23, 1962) with eight caps for Yugoslavia (three goals).
Made his name with Sarajevo, earning a lucrative move to Nantes. But he could not settle in French football and switched back from attack to midfield after joining Antwerp in 1991.

Willy VINCENT.
Midfield.
Aged 26 (born November 18, 1966) with six caps for Mauritius.
Made his name at home with Fire Brigade!

Nico CLAESEN.
Striker.
Aged 30 (born October 1, 1962) with 31 caps (12 goals).
Played all over the place — with Seraing, Stuttgart, Standard Liege and Tottenham before returning to Belgium with Antwerp in 1989. Claesen was the Belgian league's top scorer with 27 goals in 1983-84 but his career has been studded with unrest and controversy.

Marlo KROHM.
Forward. Aged 25 (born June 2, 1967).
German utility player who played, like Lehnhoff, for Alemannia Aachen before moving to Belgium with Mechelen.

Alexandre (Alex) CZERNIATYNSKI.
Forward.
Aged 33 (born February 26, 1960) with 26 caps (six goals).
Back in the spotlight after an international break of six years. Starred for Charleroi, Antwerp, Anderlecht and Standard before returning to Antwerp in 1989. He is joint five-goal top scorer in the Cup-winners' Cup (with Ian Rush).

Francis SEVEREYNS.
Forward.
Aged 25 (born January 8, 1968) with six caps.
Topped the league scoring charts with 24 goals for Antwerp in 1987-88, had a disappointing spell in Italy with Pisa before returning to Antwerp via Mechelen.

HOW THEY REACHED THE FINAL

First round
GLENAVON 1 (Smith 44)
ANTWERP 1 (Lehnhoff 46)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 3,000.

ANTWERP 1 (Kiekens 65 pen)
GLENAVON 1 (Farris 80)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 7,000.
Antwerp 3-1 on pens after extra time, 2-2 agg

Second round
ADMIRA WACKER 2 (Marschall 24, Bacher 41)
ANTWERP 4 (Czerniatynski 35, 73, Segers 53, Severeyns 62)
HT: 2-1. **Att:** 4,000.

ANTWERP 3 (Czerniatynski 21, Severeyns 44, Van Rethy 96)
ADMIRA WACKER 4 (Bacher 46, Abfalterer 57, Ljung 63, 79)
HT: 2-0. 90min: 2-4. **Att:** 7,000.
Antwerp 7-6 on agg, after extra time

Quarter-finals
ANTWERP 0
STEAUA 0
Att: 9,500

STEAUA BUCHAREST 1 (Dumitrescu 19)
ANTWERP 1 (Czerniatynski 82)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 15,000.
Antwerp on away goals rule: agg 1-1

Semi-finals
MOSCOW SPARTAK 1 (Piatnitski 36)
ANTWERP 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 60,000.

ANTWERP 3 (Czerniatynski 37, Jakovljevic 66, Lehnhoff 78pen)
MOSCOW SPARTAK 1 (Radchenko 10)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 18,000.
Antwerp 3-2 on agg

Scorers: Czerniatynski 5; Lehnhoff, Severeyns 2; Jakovljevic, Kiekens, Segers, Van Rethy 1.

Three of the best . . . Parma's Brolin (left), Melli (above) and Asprilla (below).

goals in any of their matches on the way to the final but then they also lost only once — at home to Atletico Madrid in the semi-final return when the qualifying job was almost done.

Antwerp won only two matches out of eight and squeaked through once on penalties, once after extra time and once on the away goals rule.

They also survived an appeal because the crossbar for their home match against Admira of Austria turned out to be 2cm too low!

Their one "real" aggregate victory, however, was when it really mattered — against skilled Moscow Spartak in the semi-finals. Parma will be favourites: but they would underrate Antwerp at their peril.

PARMA

THE COACH

Nevio SCALA.
Aged 45 (born November 22, 1947).
One-time midfield worker with Milan, Roma, Vicenza, Inter, Fiorentina, Foggia and Monza. Started coaching at Vicenza and took over Parma in 1988.

THE PLAYERS

Claudio Andre Mergen TAFFAREL.
Goalkeeper.
Aged 27 (born May 9, 1966) with 39 caps for Brazil.
The finest Brazilian goalkeeper since Gilmar (World Cup-winner in 1958 and 1962) and the only foreign goalkeeper in Italian football. Taffarel was Brazil's World Cup keeper at Italia '90, after which Parma bought him from Internacional of Porto Alegre.

Marco BALLOTTA.
Goalkeeper.
Aged 29 (born April 3, 1964).
Cup-winning hero last season who has forced Taffarel out of the league team as well this term. Started with Bologna, played for Modena and Cesena before joining Parma in 1991.

Marco FERRARI.
Goalkeeper.
Aged 26 (born August 21, 1966).
Parma's third-choice keeper.

Luigi APOLLONI.
Defender.
Aged 26 (born May 2, 1967).
Apolloni has spent all his senior career with Parma, whom he joined in 1987.

Antonio BENARRIVO.
Defender.
Aged 24 (born August 21, 1968).
Began with home-town club Brindisi. Joined Parma from Padova in 1991.

Alberto DI CHIARA.
Stopper.
Aged 29 (born March 29, 1964) with seven caps.
Given away early by Roma, joined Parma from Fiorentina. Regular member of Italy's World Cup squad. Targeted by several top clubs including Juventus.

Cornelio DONATI.
Defender.
Aged 35 (born January 18, 1959).
Veteran defender who had been playing league football for no fewer than 14 seasons before he finally made his Serie A debut, with Parma, in October, 1990.

Gianluca FRANCHINI.
Defender.
Aged 20 (born September 11, 1972).
Signed last summer from Avellino.

Georges GRUN.
Defender.
Aged 31 (born January 25, 1962) with 66 caps for Belgium (three goals).
Began with Anderlecht and can play right-back, stopper, sweeper or — as Parma mostly use him — in midfield. Likely to return to Belgium after Wembley.

Salvatore MATRECANO.
Defender.
Aged 22 (born October 5, 1970).
Naples-born all-round defender who entered Serie A with Foggia in 1991 and was then sold to Parma last year.

Lorenzo MINOTTI.
Sweeper.
Aged 26 (born February 8, 1967).
One of the leading contenders to succeed Franco Baresi as national team sweeper. Began with Cesena, joining Parma six years ago for free.

Stefano CUOGHI.
Midfield.
Aged 33 (born August 8, 1959).
Teenage star with Modena who later helped put Milan back on their feet before short spells at Pisa and Perugia. Joined Parma in 1990.

Marco OSIO.
Midfield.
Aged 27 (born January 13, 1966).
Torino youth product who joined Parma in their Second Division days from Empoli.

Gabriele PIN.
Midfield.
Aged 31 (born January 21, 1962).
Now in his second spell with Parma, who earlier had him on loan from Juventus. Also had a stint with Lazio.

Ivo PULGA.
Midfield.
Aged 28 (born June 20, 1964).
Played in all three divisions for Cagliari before moving to Parma in 1991.

Daniel ZORATTO.
Midfield.
Aged 31 (born November 15, 1961).
Born of Italian parents in Esch-sur-Alzette, Luxembourg, but has played his football only in Italy — with Cesena, Rimini and Brescia before Parma.

Faustino Hinestroza ASPRILLA.
Attack.
Aged 23 (born November 5, 1969) with 12 caps for Colombia.
Signed last year from Atletico Nacional of Medellin. Scorer of spectacular goals, including one that ended Milan's record-breaking 58-game unbeaten league record. Hopes to be fit for the Final after gashing a leg in an accident back home in Colombia.

Marco FERRANTE.
Forward.
Aged 22 (born February 4, 1971).
Formerly with Napoli, Reggiana and Pisa. Joined Parma in mid-season.

Gianluca HERVATIN.
Forward.
Aged 19 (born January 1, 1974).
Youngest member of the squad, signed last summer from Fourth Division Tempio.

Alessandro MELLI.
Forward.
Aged 23 (born December 11, 1969) with two caps.
Subject of a host of million-plus offers. Yet Melli cost nothing, joining Parma's youth sections as a boy. He has played for the club in all three divisions. Made his Italy debut in the recent 6-1 defeat of Malta.

Tomas BROLIN.
Striker.
Aged 23 (born November 29, 1969) with 22 caps for Sweden (12 goals).
Inspired Sweden's run to last year's European Championship semi-finals. A Tottenham fan who grabbed four goals in his first two internationals, against Wales and Finland, in the spring of 1990 to earn World Cup selection — followed by a move to Parma.

Sergio Angel BERTI.
Attack.
Aged 24 (born February 17, 1969) with six caps for Argentina.
One of the handful of men to have played for both the great clubs of Argentina, Boca Juniors and their deadly rivals in Buenos Aires, River Plate.

Fausto PIZZI.
Forward.
Aged 25 (born July 21, 1967). Born in Milan, developed by Internazionale's youth squads and scorer of 11 vital goals in Parma's 1990 promotion campaign.

HOW THEY REACHED THE FINAL

First round
PARMA 1 (Asprilla 48)
UJPEST TE 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 11,600.

UJPEST 1 (Hetesi 62)
PARMA 1 (Grun 53)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 12,000.
Parma 2-1 on agg

Second round
PARMA 0
BOAVISTA 0
Att: 15,000.

BOAVISTA 0
PARMA 2 (Di Chiara 11, Melli 78)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 8,000.
Parma 2-0 on agg

Quarter-finals
SPARTA PRAGUE 0
PARMA 0
Att: 24,900.

PARMA 2 (Melli 11, Asprilla 33)
SPARTA PRAGUE 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 20,000.
Parma 2-0 on agg

Semi-finals
ATLETICO MADRID 1
(Luis Garcia 44)
PARMA 2 (Asprilla 57, 61)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 50,000.

PARMA 0
ATLETICO MADRID 1 (Sabas 77)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 21,915.
Parma on away goals: 2-2 agg

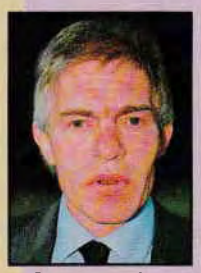
Scorers: Asprilla 4; Melli 2; Di Chiara, Grun 1 each.

CUP-WINNERS' CUP PAST RESULTS

Year	Opponents	Res	Venue	Att
1961*	Rangers v Fiorentina	0-2	Glasgow	80,000
1961*	Fiorentina v Rangers	2-1	Florence	40,000
1962	Atletico Madrid v Fiorentina	1-1 (aet)	Glasgow	30,000
Replay	Atletico Madrid v Fiorentina	3-0	Stuttgart	39,000
1963	Tottenham Hotspur v Atletico Madrid	5-1	Rotterdam	50,000
1964	Sporting Lisbon v MTK Budapest	3-3 (aet)	Brussels	4,000
Replay	Sporting Lisbon v MTK Budapest	1-0	Antwerp	14,000
1965	West Ham United v TSV Munich 1860	2-0	Wembley	98,000
1966	Borussia Dortmund v Liverpool	2-1 (aet)	Glasgow	42,000
1967	Bayern Munich v Rangers	1-0 (aet)	Nuremberg	70,000
1968	Milan v Hamburg SV	2-0	Rotterdam	54,000
1969	Slovan Bratislava v Barcelona	3-2	Basle	40,000
1970	Manchester City v Gornik Zabrze	2-1	Vienna	10,000
1971	Chelsea v Real Madrid	1-1 (aet)	Athens	42,000
Replay	Chelsea v Real Madrid	2-1	Athens	24,000
1972	Rangers v Moscow Dynamo	3-2	Barcelona	35,000
1973	Milan v Leeds United	1-0	Salonika	45,000
1974	FC Magdeburg v Milan	2-0	Rotterdam	5,000
1975	Kiev Dynamo v Ferencvaros	3-0	Basle	13,000
1976	Anderlecht v West Ham United	4-2	Brussels	58,000
1977	Hamburg SV v Anderlecht	2-0	Amsterdam	65,000
1978	Anderlecht v FK Austria	4-0	Paris	48,679
1979	Barcelona v Fortuna Dusseldorf	4-3 (aet)	Basle	58,000
1980	Valencia v Arsenal	0-0	Brussels	40,000
		5-4 (pens)		
1981	Dynamo Tbilisi v Carl Zeiss Jena	2-1	Dusseldorf	9,000
1982	Barcelona v Standard Liege	2-1	Barcelona	100,000
1983	Aberdeen v Real Madrid	2-1	Gothenburg	17,804
1984	Juventus v FC Porto	2-1	Basle	60,000
1985	Everton v Rapid Vienna	3-1	Rotterdam	50,000
1986	Kiev Dynamo v Atletico Madrid	3-0	Lyon	39,300
1987	Ajax v Lokomotive Leipzig	1-0	Athens	35,000
1988	Mechelen v Ajax	1-0	Strasbourg	39,446
1989	Barcelona v Sampdoria	2-0	Berne	45,000
1990	Sampdoria v Anderlecht	2-0 (aet)	Gothenburg	20,103
1991	Manchester United v Barcelona	2-1	Rotterdam	42,000
1992	Werder Bremen v Monaco	2-0	Lisbon	16,000

** = final over two legs*

Antwerp coach . . . Walter Meeuws.



Parma coach . . . Nevio Scala.

week players could not afford.

In 1955 the big German, Bert Trautmann, once a prisoner of war, kept goal for Manchester City, losers against Newcastle. A year after that Trautmann was back, a winner against Birmingham despite a late collision that displaced a bone in his neck.

I first saw Trautmann (right) playing for a minor Lancashire club while he was going through a tortuous qualification process enabling him to join City. Even now, 40 years on, I cannot recall a finer keeper.

Des Horne of Wolves in 1960 and Albert Johannesson of Leeds in '65 were South Africans and, like Perry, both played outside-left in the days when shirt numbers meant something.

Wilf Smith of Sheffield Wednesday in 1966 was born in West Germany. Then came Vic Halom, a curiosity if ever there was one: born in the Midlands of Hungarian parentage, a Luton player until January 1973, a Cup-winner with Sunderland in May that year in THE biggest Wembley upset of all . . . and still ending the season as Luton's top scorer.

Ossie Ardiles, perhaps the best of all the foreign imports over the past decade or so, played for Spurs in 1981. So did Ricky Villa, scorer of that remarkable winning goal against Manchester City, and Milija Aleksic, a Slav born in Staffordshire.

Both Argentines missed the '82 game because of the Falklands conflict, although Ardiles went on to play in '87 alongside the Belgian, Nico Claesen.

In between, Manchester United had had two incomers, Arnold Muhren of Holland in '83 and Jesper Olsen of Denmark in '85. Different types, different value for money, but both winners.

Since then, Liverpool have provided Bruce Grobbelaar from Zimbabwe — only the second goalkeeper after Dick Pym of Bolton to gain three FA Cup winner's medals — Jan Molby from Denmark and Craig Johnston, a South African brought up in Australia.

Spurs have used Eric Thorstvedt from Norway, Nayim from Morocco, Richard Gough, a Scot born in Sweden and raised in South Africa, and Pat Van Den Hauwe, a Welsh international born in Belgium.

Crystal Palace in 1990 joined the small band of clubs to field an all-English team in a final . . . or did they?

John Salako (left), an England international, had been born in Nigeria.

Nothing new in that, for John Barnes, a finalist with Watford once and Liverpool twice, was born in Jamaica but qualified for England.

This month seems certain to bring additions to the list of foreigners who have played in the final of England's top tournament.

A colourful parade, indeed . . . but a confusing one, too.

Still hoping for **US '94**

A CREDITABLE performance against Belgium put the Welsh national team back in the running for a place at the US '94 World Cup.

Goals from the remarkable Giggs (above) and the enduring Rush capped a superb team performance at the National Stadium in front of a patriotic crowd that manager Terry Yorath describes as his "extra man".

Defenders Young and Aizlewood had to miss the next qualifier, in Ostrava against the Czechs, due to accumulated bookings resulting in automatic suspension.

Despite their absence Wales battled their way to an honourable 1-1 draw with a goal by Hughes.

So hopes are again high despite past failures at the last hurdle.

A run of three home games, against the Czechs, Cyprus and Romania, closes the group, giving Wales a slight advantage.

The announcement that Konica-Peter Llewellyn will take up their option to sponsor the League of Wales for a further two seasons has given the domestic game a lift.

With interest in the League both inside and outside Wales growing, further financial security may result from efforts to gain League fixtures a regular place on the UK pools coupons.

Only two matches are planned for inclusion so far this season, but negotiations with the pools companies will continue.

The title contenders are now down to Cwmbran Town and Inter Cardiff.

Town's 1-0 defeat at mid-table Mold Alexandra meant that Inter were able to take over the leadership, but remarkably all their five remaining fixtures are away.

At the bottom, four clubs remain in danger of filling the two relegation slots; Newtown, Fflint Town United; Abergavenny Thursdays and Llanidloes Town.

The battle to avoid relegation will undoubtedly go the wire, like the title race.

MEL AP IOR **THOMAS**

First-half goals by Mike Newell, two, and Kevin Gallacher ended the match as a contest and Blackburn should have had more.

So, with two games left, United needed one more victory to secure the title. But Villa still had hope. United's games were at home to in-form Blackburn, who needed a victory to keep up their pursuit of third-placed Norwich and a possible UEFA Cup place, and then away to Wimbledon.

If Blackburn could avoid defeat at Old Trafford then United would face the unwelcome prospect of going to Wimbledon for their final game — the last team you would want to be playing under those circumstances!

At the bottom it was equally close. Ipswich's 3-1 victory at home to Norwich guaranteed their survival and ended Norwich's slim hopes of snatching the title.

Crystal Palace also seemed safe, but Nottingham Forest's hopes of survival were not helped by Brian Clough's resignation. They could still survive, with their game against Sheffield United absolutely crucial. The loser almost certainly would go down, along with Oldham and Middlesbrough.

Linfield lift the title

LINFIELD clinched this season's League title on the penultimate day.

A 2-1 victory away to arch-rivals Glentoran sealed victory while fellow contenders Portadown were losing 3-0 at Distillery and Crusaders were drawing 1-1 at home to Ards, after having Kirk Hunter sent off after only eight minutes.

So Linfield manager Trevor Anderson — third-team coach at the start of the season — could celebrate his team's first championship for four years.

Linfield had trailed the Glens until half an hour from the end, when striker Glenn Hunter equalised, and then sub Ritchie Johnston shot the championship-winning goal in the closing minutes.

Glentoran, who won last season's Championship by 12 points, are in mid-table, and had been looking to the Cup for European football next season.

Following their Cup exit, Glentoran took out their frustration in an 8-2 victory at Ballymena, but they had not been able to score when it mattered.

North Down rivals Bangor and Ards won through to the Irish Cup Final. Ards defeated Cliftonville in a see-saw match, with the winning goal coming in the last minute following errors in defence.

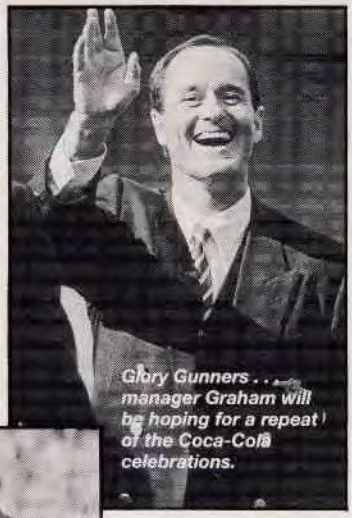
The Reds had pegged back a 2-0 Ards lead and seemed to have earned at least a replay. Bangor weathered an early Glentoran storm at a rain-lashed Windsor Park before winning 3-1, to reach their first final since 1938, when they lost 2-0 in a replay against now-defunct Belfast Celtic.

One of the mainsprings in Bangor's success — they had one run of 13 successive wins — is 20-year-old Dubliner Paul Byrne.

He looks set to move to Scotland, joining Celtic after the current season finishes.

ROY **KITSON**

Graham in line for a double double



Glory Gunners . . . manager Graham will be hoping for a repeat of the Coca-Cola celebrations.

ARSENAL completed the first half of a possible Cup and Cup double when they beat Sheffield Wednesday 2-1 in the final of the Coca-Cola League Cup at Wembley.

The match was a disappointment as neither side found their best form and perhaps suffered from big-match fatigue with the game played so soon after the FA Cup semi-finals, also at Wembley.

Wednesday started brightly and took the lead through John Harkes after nine minutes. The goal completed a neat double for Harkes, the first American to play at Wembley and now the first to score there.

But Wednesday allowed Arsenal to come back into the game with an equaliser from Paul Merson after 18 minutes.

Arsenal's winner came 22 minutes from time through Northern Ireland midfielder Steve Morrow — his first goal for the Gunners. But Morrow's afternoon ended badly in a bizarre post-match accident.

As the Arsenal players began celebrating on the pitch, Tony Adams hoisted Morrow up on to his shoulders, but Morrow toppled off and broke his right arm as he crashed to the turf. He was taken from the pitch on a stretcher, was unable to collect his medal and is out for the rest of the season.

Tactically, Wednesday got it all wrong in this first encounter, resorting to long balls down the middle looking for Mark Bright and Paul Warhurst which played right into Arsenal's hands. Arsenal centre-backs Tony Adams and Andy Linighan, 6ft 1in and 6ft 3in respectively, had a comfortable afternoon of heading practice.

Wednesday never found any width, partly due to Northern Ireland full-back Nigel Worthington's suspension, and they suffered for it. Worthington is an attacking defender who is as good at crosses as any other in Britain.

But without him Wednesday never tested veteran David O'Leary, playing out of position at right-back because Lee Dixon was suspended following his Wembley dismissal in the FA Cup semi-final win over Tottenham.

Both Worthington and Dixon should return for the FA Cup Final and it could be a key confrontation. Certainly Trevor Francis's Sheffield side will need to be more inventive in the return if they are going to take the trophy they last won in 1935.

Wednesday's midfield will have to create more space than in the first game for Waddle to weave his magic, and Worthington and Roland Nilsson will have to push up on the flanks to provide decent service for Bright and his partner — either Paul Warhurst or David Hirst.

Wednesday have an extra incentive to win the Cup, though none should be needed, because defeat would mean their fine season ending without a trophy or European football next term.

Arsenal already are guaranteed European football next season and that could mean they will be a little more relaxed than Wednesday. Morrow's place in midfield could be taken by John Jensen, who has had a difficult first season in England, or by young Ian Selley, who played for the England youth side in the recent World Youth Cup in Australia.

George Graham's side did not play particularly well in the first encounter but were still good enough to win. If Arsenal reveal their true potential then Wednesday could face a very testing afternoon.

Ian Wright should partner Alan Smith in attack with Paul Merson just behind them making runs from midfield.

Wright, in particular, would love to score at Wembley, to make up for the disappointment of missing England's World Cup tie against Holland with a broken toe, and to equal Frank Stapleton's record of being the only man to score for different clubs in different FA Cup finals at Wembley.

Graham is "on" for an even more remarkable feat. An Arsenal win would make him only the third man — after Joe Mercer and Kenny Dalglish — to play in and then manage clubs who won both the League Championship and FA Cup.

JOHN KELLY

DAVID PROLE looks at the outsiders in Wembley history

Colourful and confusing

Unlucky Gunners . . . Robledo (second from the right) heads his Wembley goal.

EXPLORATION of the early days in Wembley Cup Final history can be a thankless task, for documentation was poor in the days before football became the object of such prominent display in various media outlets.

As an eager seeker after FA Cup truths I have run into some blank walls, but after much exhaustive research I feel that the answers to certain queries have appeared — although further information will be gladly received.

For example, I am 99 per cent sure that George Robledo, of Chile, was the first player born outside Britain or Ireland to score in an FA Cup Final at Wembley, when he headed a late winner for Newcastle against Arsenal in 1952.

He had played for Newcastle a year earlier, when Bill Perry — a South African qualified for England by parentage (and later capped three times) had been among Blackpool's losing opponents.

As for the first "outsider" to play in a Wembley Final, I am reasonably certain that Charlie Preedy, Arsenal's goalkeeper in 1930, earned that distinction.

Preedy, born in India with a soldier father, was a late choice by the Gunners that day, and apparently had the devil's own luck.

"Never have I seen a goalkeeper fumble the ball so often without punishment," wrote one scribe after Huddersfield's 2-0 defeat.

After Preedy, Perry and the elder Robledo came the junior Robledo, Eduardo (known as Ted) who played alongside his brother in 1952 and was later killed in a dock accident.

Two years later Joe Marston was a losing defender with Preston: a man so popular with fans that they subscribed to give him a holiday in his native Australia — something that £15-a-

On the brink

WITH two matches left to play, the first Premier League title looked like being Manchester United's.

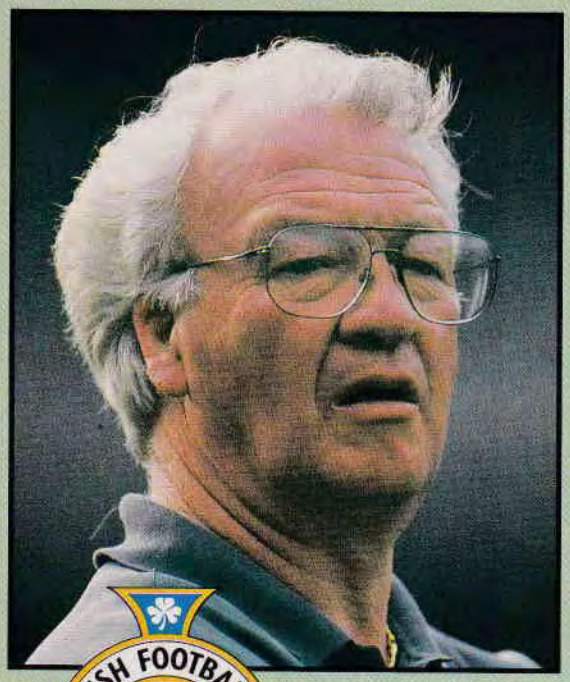
Aston Villa kept pace right up until the last weeks of the season, but United held their nerve to maintain pole position. Both clubs had excellent 1-0 away wins on Easter Monday — Villa at Arsenal and United at Coventry. On the next weekend, United beat Chelsea 3-0 and Villa won 3-1 at home to Manchester City, despite going a goal down.

But the following Wednesday proved to be a turning point. United went to Selhurst Park to play a Crystal Palace side desperate for points in their fight to avoid relegation. Chris Armstong almost opened the scoring for Palace in the first half, but his shot hit a post.

United, roared on by a huge band of travelling fans, held Palace at bay and then took the lead through Mark Hughes, his 100th goal for the club. Paul Ince made certain of three points with a solo goal a minute from time.

While that was going on, Villa were being heavily beaten by Blackburn at Ewood Park.

Century-maker . . . Hughes scores at Palace.



Fading hopes . . . action from the 1986 World Cup (left) as Brazil goalkeeper Leao clears an Irish attack.

On the up

Bingham will hand over an improving outfit

By MARK **IRWIN**

WHEN Billy Bingham finally steps down as manager of Northern Ireland at the end of their current World Cup campaign, he is confident of handing over a team in the ascendant.

Former Sunderland, Luton and Everton winger Bingham can look back on some remarkable achievements during his 18 years in charge of the Northern Irish, a reign which he believes makes him the longest-serving manager in international football.

In that time he has seen his patchwork team capture the now defunct British Championship twice and, more importantly, qualify for successive World Cup finals in 1982 and 1986.

The highlight was the defeat of host national Spain to reach the quarter-finals in 1982, but since that team fell apart seven years ago things have never quite been the same.

Yet even though qualification for US '94 now seems extremely unlikely, Bingham still believes the Northern Irish will soon be back in business.

The 3-0 defeat in Dublin by the Republic of Ireland in March left Bingham's team facing an uphill task in a qualifying group also containing European Champions Denmark and the unpredictable Spanish.

The rivalry between the Irish teams is there for all to see. Northern Ireland's current decline is all the more difficult to swallow in the light of the Republic's success on the world stage. Bingham was clearly riled by the pre-match remarks of Republic manager Jack Charlton, and even more so by taunts from the Lansdowne Road crowd of "There's only one team in Ireland".

"Ah, yes," counters Bingham. "But our fans could probably sing 'Only one team are Irish.' And when all's said and done, we've still been to three World Cups compared to their one."

He believes that the Republic would not have had such success without the recruitment of a number of English, Scots and Welsh-born players under FIFA's generous grandparent rule. And he is equally proud of the fact that all but one member of his current team was born in the Province.

Finest hour . . . Bingham salutes the fans after the 1-0 win over Spain at the 1982 World Cup (above).

Favourite son . . . a young Bingham in a Northern Ireland shirt (right)

"Eight of the team in Dublin are under-25," he points out. "Only Alan McDonald, Mal Donaghy and Nigel Worthington supply any real experience. But these lads could provide the nucleus of a decent team for six or seven years and they'll get better the longer they play together."

Bingham believes it is essential to look at the recent history of Northern Ireland's football team before examining their future.

"Between 1980 and 1987, Northern Ireland had their best-ever team, but since the demise of that side I've had a long, hard job to come up with fresh young talent," he admits.

"The nucleus of a very good team all went into decline at the same time. Jennings, O'Neill, McIlroy, McClelland, Armstrong, Hamilton, O'Neill, and Whiteside and both Nicholls all went together.

"We are a very small nation. We don't have the same cycle of players as great soccer nations like Brazil, Germany and even England. After '86 there was a dearth of talent, but I had to blood the youngsters and risk them at the top level.

"By our standards, we've awarded caps to a lot of players these past few years. Some have failed, some have come back after a poor start, others have taken to international football straight away.

"It would have been easy for me to leave after the 1986 World Cup with a very good track record, but if I'd done that I believe that Northern Ireland would have been through three or four different managers by now because the results wouldn't have been right.

"I knew we were heading for a decline, so I stayed to hold things together, with a very tight defence and stop us from being turned over. And now there are definite signs of improvement.

"Our results have been better over the last two years and we've gained some great results against the likes of Germany and Spain.

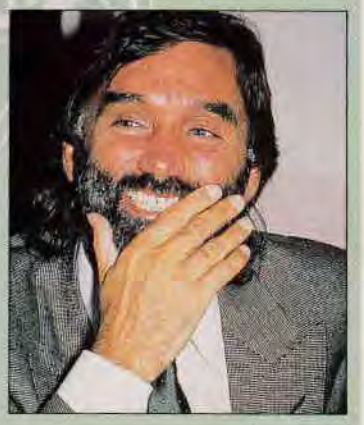
"That hasn't seduced us into believing we're going to qualify for the next World Cup. The team are certainly better than they were, but I still don't know just how far they can go. There is no point in kidding ourselves that we're up there with the Germanys and Brazils of this world, but because we qualified for two World Cup finals, people expect us to maintain that sort of standard.

"If we can finish third in our qualifying group this time, that will still be a success."

Bingham, who was capped 56 times during a 13-year international career, insists he has enjoyed every minute of his reign. But at 61 the time is now right to hand over to a new man.

Just who that man will be remains to be seen. Former Manchester United full-back Jimmy Nicholl, one of Bingham's stars of '82, appears favourite for the job after helping Raith become the first team in Britain to win promotion this season.

Martin O'Neill is another being mentioned, though he would be reluctant to leave Wycome Wanderers so soon after guiding them into the Football League. And what price George Best (below), who recently threw his hat in the ring for the manager's job?



Bingham insists that he will not make recommendations, and is concerned only at leaving as steady a team as possible.

But he stresses the need for a successful team to lift some of the gloom surrounding life in the troubled province, and knows that the politics of life in Northern Ireland make this a job unlike any other in football.

"In all my years in charge, the team has been picked solely on playing ability," Bingham insists.

"Religion doesn't come into it. We have few enough players to choose from as it is without introducing any form of discrimination.

"In my team Catholics and Protestants play together, train together, room together and get on well together. They are a fine example to the rest of the community.

"We've got a lot of support right across the divide and I'd like to think that everyone living here would cheer us on.

"That was certainly the case when we were doing so well in the '80s and I sincerely hope they will have some more success to cheer in the not too distant future."

GORAM THE BEST AT THE BACK

By ALAN FAIRLEY

THE Scottish League season ended in predictable fashion with Rangers striding unchallenged to their fifth successive Premier Division championship, an achievement which had never been in serious doubt since the race began last August.

Although probably the least active member of the Rangers team, in domestic terms at any rate, goalkeeper Andy Goram was chosen Player of the Year by Scottish football writers.

Goram (above), signed for £1million from Hibernian in 1991, has had an outstanding season. His performance during the second leg of the Champions' Cup tie at Leeds was magnificent.

Ally McCoist, Mark Hateley and Stuart McCall were all very much in the running for the award, and the gradual re-emergence of Ian Durrant also has been a significant component of the club's success.

Over in Edinburgh, Hearts have experienced another indifferent season, which included their now habitual Scottish Cup semi-final failure.

Despite taking the lead against Rangers, they conceded two late goals that revived their hopes of an appearance in the final.

Manager Joe Jordan must now start planning again, but with little available to strengthen his squad, Hearts fans are unlikely to harbour any great hopes for short-term improvement.

Celtic, meanwhile, appear strangely reconciled to assuming a minor role on the Scottish stage. Manager Liam Brady's principal task in the close season will be to re-negotiate terms with midfielder John Collins, whose contract expires shortly. The club will hope to secure him on a long-term contract, similar to the deal which was agreed last year with Paul McStay, who is earning a reputed £7,000 a week.

PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rangers	39	30	7	2	93	30	67
Aberdeen	38	23	9	6	76	31	55
Celtic	40	20	12	8	63	41	52
Dundee Utd	40	17	9	14	48	43	43
Hearts	39	15	13	11	42	37	43
Hibernian	40	11	13	16	51	57	35
St. Johnstone	40	9	17	14	47	63	35
Partick	39	10	12	17	44	64	32
Dundee	40	10	11	19	44	60	31
Motherwell	39	8	12	19	40	48	28
Falkirk	40	10	7	32	52	81	27
Airdrie	40	5	16	19	30	65	26'

RESULTS

FA PREMIER LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Man Utd	39	21	12	6	60	29	75
Aston Villa	38	20	11	7	53	33	71
Norwich	39	20	8	11	56	59	68
Blackburn	38	17	11	10	61	42	62
QPR	38	15	10	13	57	52	55
Tottenham	37	15	10	12	53	53	55
Sheff. Wed	36	14	12	10	49	42	54
Liverpool	38	14	11	13	52	49	53
Chelsea	40	13	14	13	47	49	53
Man City	37	14	10	13	51	42	52
Wimbledon	39	14	10	15	53	51	52
Coventry	40	13	12	15	48	52	51
Arsenal	36	14	8	14	35	33	50
Southampton	40	13	11	16	51	56	50
Everton	39	14	7	18	48	51	49
Leeds Utd	38	12	12	14	52	55	48
Ipswich	39	10	16	13	44	50	46
Crystal Palace	38	10	15	13	45	55	45
Sheff. Utd	38	11	9	18	45	50	44
Oldham Ath	39	10	10	19	55	69	40
Nottm. Forest	39	10	9	20	39	57	39
Middlesbrough	39	9	10	20	45	70	37

ENGLAND

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 4

WEEKEND

EVERTON v SHEFFIELD UNITED — *postponed.*

SHEFFIELD WED v LEEDS UTD — *postponed.*

ARSENAL v TOTTENHAM — *postponed.*

CHELSEA 4 (Donaghy 52, Spencer 61, Stuart 70, Barnard 90)
MIDDLESBROUGH 0. **Att:** 13,043.

OLDHAM 6 (Fashano 5 o.g., Bernard 13, Olney 42, 69, Adams 73, Beckford 87)
WIMBLEDON 2 (Holdsworth 61, 68). **Att:** 11,606.

COVENTRY 2 (Quinn 7 pen, Williams 80)
SOUTHAMPTON 0. **Att:** 10,463.

CRYSTAL PALACE 1 (Bardsley 2 o.g)
QPR 1 (Allen 23). **Att:** 14,705.

BLACKBURN 4 (Newell 13, Moran 25, Gallacher 41, Wilcox 65)
LIVERPOOL 1 (Rush 84). **Att:** 15,032.

NOTTM FOREST 0
ASTON VILLA 1 (McGrath 63).
Att: 25,000.

MANCHESTER CITY 3 (Quinn 55, Holden 66, Vonk 70)
IPSWICH 1 (Johnson 2). **Att:** 20,680.

FA CUP — SEMI-FINALS

SHEFFIELD WED 2 (Waddle 1, Bright 107)
SHEFFIELD UTD 1 (Cork 44).
Att: 75,364 *(at Wembley)*.

ARSENAL 1 (Adams 78)
TOTTENHAM 0. **Att:** 76,263 *(at Wembley)*.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 11

MIDWEEK

NOTTM FOREST 1 (Clough 51 pen)
BLACKBURN 3 (Wilcox 7, Ripley 67, Newell 76).
Att: 20,467.

OLDHAM 1 (Pointon 14)
SHEFFIELD WED 1 (Watson 65).
Att: 12,312.

IPSWICH 1 (Guentchev 38)
CHELSEA 1 (Spencer 58). **Att:** 17,444.

SHEFFIELD UTD 2 (Rogers 24, Deane 86)
LEEDS UTD 1 (Stradli 34). **Att:** 20,562.

MIDDLESBROUGH 1 (Hendrie 32)
ARSENAL 0. **Att:** 12,726.

NORWICH 1 (Robins 61)
MANCHESTER UTD 3 (Giggs 13, Kanchelskis 20, Cantona 21). **Att:** 20,582.

WEEKEND

MIDDLESBROUGH 1 (Wilkinson 64)
EVERTON 2 (Watson 26, Radasoljevic 80). **Att:** 16,627.

IPSWICH 1 (Wark 27 pen)
ARSENAL 2 (Smith 2, Merson 87)
Att: 20,358.

ASTON VILLA 0
COVENTRY 0. **Att:** 38,543.

LEEDS UTD 5 (Strachan 83 pen, 26 pen, 50, Wallace 67, Chapman 89)
BLACKBURN 2 (Gallagher 72, Atkins 85). **Att:** 31,791.

WIMBLEDON 4 (Earle 20, 53, Holdsworth 24, 46)
CRYSTAL PALACE 0. **Att:** 12,275.

SHEFFIELD UTD 1 (Deane 69)
MANCHESTER CITY 1 (Pemberton 8 o.g.)
Att: 18,231.

MANCHESTER UTD 2 (Bruce 86, 90)
SHEFFIELD WED 1 (Sheridan 65 pen). **Att:** 40,102.

SOUTHAMPTON 1 (Banger 49)
CHELSEA 0. **Att:** 15,135.

TOTTENHAM 5 (Ruddock 27, Sheringham 30, 77, Barmby 55, Nayim 83)
NORWICH 1 (Ekoku 88). **Att:** 31,425.

LIVERPOOL 1 (Rush 60)
OLDHAM 0. **Att:** 36,129.

QPR 4 (Ferdinand 38, 70, 73, Wilson 45 pen)
NOTTM FOREST 3 (Bannister 8, Black 49, 54).
Att: 19,815.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 18

WEEKEND

LEEDS 0
CRYSTAL PALACE 0. **Att:** 27,545.

LIVERPOOL 4 (Walters 16, 33, 50 pen, Burrows 75)
COVENTRY 0. **Att:** 33,328.

MANCHESTER UTD 3 (Hughes 23, Clarke 44 o.g., Cantona 48)
CHELSEA 0. **Att:** 40,139.

SHEFFIELD UTD 1 (Hodges 8)
BLACKBURN 3 (Gallacher 39, Newell 54, Sherwood 68). **Att:** 18,186.

SOUTHAMPTON 0
EVERTON 0. **Att:** 19,911.

TOTTENHAM 4 (Sheringham 58 pen, 82 pen, Anderton 70, Turner 84)
OLDHAM 1 (Beckford 25). **Att:** 26,663.

WIMBLEDON 1 (Clarke 32)
NOTTINGHAM FOREST 0. **Att:** 9,358.

SCOTLAND

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 4

MIDWEEK

RANGERS 2 (Ferguson 65, McCoist 89)
ABERDEEN 0. **Att:** 44,150.

MOTHERWELL 2 (Kirk 36, Cooper 40)
CELTIC 0. **Att:** 10,102.

WEEKEND

ABERDEEN v RANGERS — *postponed.*

HIBERNIAN v ST JOHNSTONE — *postponed.*

CELTIC v AIRDRIE — *postponed.*

MOTHERWELL v HEARTS — *postponed.*

DUNDEE 0
PARTICK THISTLE 1 (Cameron 35 pen). **Att:** 3,998.

FALKIRK 1 (Shaw 63)
DUNDEE UTD 2 (Connolly 42, Johnson 46). **Att:** 3,600.

SCOTTISH CUP — SEMI-FINALS

HIBERNIAN 0
ABERDEEN 1 (Booth 55). **Att:** 21,413
(at Tynecastle).

RANGERS 2 (McPherson 70, McCoist 75)
HEARTS 1 (Preston 58). **Att:** 41,738
(at Parkhead).

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 11

MIDWEEK

CELTIC 4 (Slater 34, Collins 37, McAvennie 67, Vata 74)
AIRDRIE 0. **Att:** 12,183.

HIBERNIAN 2 (Wright 52, Evans 78)
ST JOHNSTONE 2 (Moore 8, Buglione 12). **Att:** 3,538.

WEEKEND

HEARTS 0
DUNDEE 0. **Att:** 6,033.

PARTICK 0
FALKIRK 1 (May 33). **Att:** 4,000.

AIRDRIE 1 (Fashanu 48)
ABERDEEN 1 (Shearer 19). **Att:** 3,000.

RANGERS 1 (Brown 86)
MOTHERWELL 0. **Att:** 41,353.

ST JOHNSTONE 1 (Moore 45)
CELTIC 1 (McAvennie 29). **Att:** 8,600.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 18

MIDWEEK

DUNDEE UTD 0
HIBERNIAN 3 (Wright 37, 56, 63).
Att: 5,167.

HEARTS 2 (Robertson 15, Bannon 85)
RANGERS 3 (McCall 43, Hateley 49, 62). **Att:** 11,250.

WEEKEND

ABERDEEN 3 (Shearer 36, Paatelainen 39, Mason 57)
HEARTS 2 (Levein 64, I. Ferguson 68). **Att:** 9,000.

DUNDEE UTD 3 (Dailly 2, Bollan 28,Connolly 75)
AIRDRIE 0. **Att:** 4,200.

FALKIRK 2 (Sloan 66, Shaw 88)
ST JOHNSTONE 2 (Curran 42, McGowne 49).
Att: 3,860.

HIBERNIAN 3 (Jackson 4 pen, Evans 7, Wright 43)
CELTIC 1 (Nicholas 76). **Att:** 11,183.

MOTHERWELL 1 (McGrillen 56)
DUNDEE 2 (Ritchie 30, Dodds 84).
Att: 4,287.

RANGERS 3 (McSwegan 40, 80, Hagen 67)
PARTICK 1 (Britton 90). **Att:** 42,636.

lotto

CROSSWORD

By Christine Ansell

WIN!

TO WIN a pair of Lotto Futura boots, fill in this month's crossword and send it to:

***WORLD SOCCER CROSSWORD* (JUNE), 25th floor, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS.**

Last month's solution

Across: 1.Senegal, 7. Abata, 8. Papin, 9. Tsveiba, 10. Lithuania, 15. Ekstrom, 18. Italy, 19. Leigh, 20. Ardiles.

Down: 1. Supra, 2. Napoli, 3. Gent, 4. Latvia, 5. Pari, 6. Japan, 11. Hertha, 12. Israel, 13. Vejle, 14. Hayes, 16. Saib, 17. Mild.

Last month's winner was Andrew Williams from Aldington, Ashford, Kent.

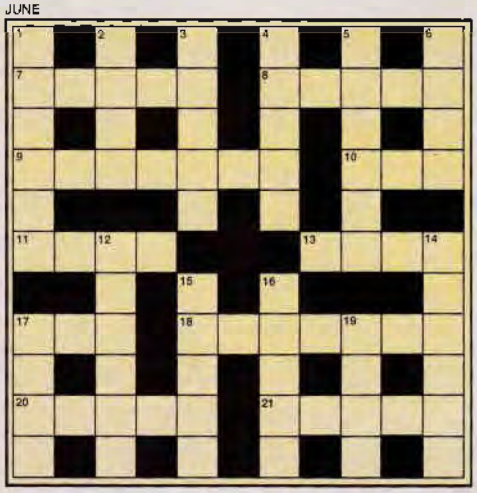
Across

7. ....Thrice-capped, home-produced midfield stalwart of Milan (5)
8. ....Hungary's ex-Volan midfielder in Belgium with Waregem (5)
9. ....Lebanese League champions — for the fourth consecutive time (2,5)
10. ..Ex-Arsenal and England winger who appeared for Caen (3)
11. ..Four-times winners of the Arab Cup (4)
13. ..Thessaloniki club — last season's Greek UEFA Cup representatives (4)
17. ..Lofty young Norwegian striker from Second Division Sogndal (3)
18. ..European Cup Winners Cup winners, 1985 (7)
20. ..Madrid boss sacked as a table-topper in '92 (5)
21. ..Much-capped Inter 'keeper (5)

Down

1. ....Ancona's Magyar midfield maestro formerly with Bologna (6)
2. ....Paris St Germain 'keeper recruited from Lens (4)
3. ....Unlikely Soviet champions of 1982 (5)
4. ....Portuguese winger controversially transferred from Atletico to Benfica (5)
5. ....Name adopted by Dinamo Tbilisi during 1991-92 season (6)
6. ....Assistant to Walter Smith at Glasgow Rangers (4)
12. ..Alberto, ex-San Lorenzo star who joined Boca Juniors for £1.3m (6)
14. ..Casino Salzburg's Austrian custodian formerly with Sturm Graz (6)
15. ..S. Italian Serie B club from the Via del Mare (5)
16. ..Long serving Ajax keeper capped by Holland (5)
17. ..Deportivo La Coruna's Francesco Javier Gonzalez Perez (4)
19. ..Antonio Oliveira — Ivic's successor at Benfica (4)

JUNE



Name

Address

Postcode

Country

Photocopies are acceptable. SHOE SIZE

N. America

COLIN JOSE looks at America's Open Cup history

From Kennel Club to Simpkins

Final style . . . Fraser of Bethlehem Steel punches clear from Fall River's Patenaude in the 1930 US Open Cup Eastern Final in New Bedford. Fall River won 3-2.

A DOMESTIC Cup Final in the US these days would be unlikely to attract more than a few hundred fans.

What a difference from 60 years ago, when the United States Open Cup Final for the Thomas Dewar Cup was one of the highlights of the US soccer calendar.

At Dexter Park in Brooklyn on April 7, 1929, there were 20,000 fans, the largest crowd ever to see an Open Cup Final, as New York Hakoah beat Madison Kennel Club of St. Louis 3-0.

In the second game of a best-of-three series, played at Sportsmans Park in St. Louis, 18,000 looked on as Hakoah, made up entirely of Austrians and Hungarians, shut out Madison for the second time, 2-0.

Crowds in excess of 10,000 were commonplace for the national finals in those days, and for the eastern final.

In recent years, however, this competition, once roughly the equivalent of the FA Cup in England, has passed almost into oblivion.

The story began in 1914 with Brooklyn Field Club beating Brooklyn Celtic 2-1 in Pawtucket, Rhode Island. At first the final was a single game, but in 1928 it became a best-of-three series, and New York Nationals beat Chicago Bricklayers 3-0 at Soldier Field in Chicago, after they had drawn 1-1 at the Polo Grounds in New York.

The finals of the 1920s and 30s occurred during what is often termed the Golden Age of American Soccer, and many of the players were ex-European professionals or American-born players who appeared in the World Cup finals of 1930 and 1934.

One of those was Billy Gonsalves, often referred to in those days as the "Babe Ruth of American soccer".

Gonsalves was born in Fall River, Massachusetts, one of a family of eight whose parents had emigrated from the island of Madeira.

He appeared in 11 finals in 14 years, starting with Fall River's win over Cleveland Bruells in 1930 and going on to win again with Fall River (1931), New Bedford Whalers (1932), St. Louis Stix, Baer and Fuller (1933, 1934), St. Louis Central Breweries (1935) and Brooklyn Hispano (1943, 1944). He was on the losing side with St. Louis Shamrocks (1936, 1937) and Chicago Manhattan Beer (1939).

Gonsalves was not the only Open Cup star in those days. Bert Patenaude, who also hailed from Fall River and appeared in the 1930 World Cup, scored five goals in the opening game of the 1931 Final as Fall River hammered Chicago Bricklayers 6-2.

US international Tom Florie, playing with Gonsalves, helped New Bedford win the title in 1932, as did Norwegian-born US international Werner Nilsen.

Another member of the 1930 World Cup team, full-back George Moor-house, played for New York Americans in the finals of 1933 and 1937.

Among the more notable finals of the 1920s were Fall River's 4-2 win over St. Louis Vesper Buicks before 14,000 in St. Louis, with a team including former Chelsea centre-forward Harold Brittan and one-time England schoolboy cap Ned Tate at right-back.

Fall River Marksmen won again in 1927, beating Holley Carburretors of Detroit 7-0. Thomas Blair, formerly of Manchester City and Kilmarnock, was in goal.

Bethlehem Steel won in 1926, beating St. Louis Ben Millers 7-2. The game was played before 18,000 fans at Ebbets Field in Brooklyn, then home to the Dodgers baseball team.

Archie Stark scored three times for Bethlehem in this game, while Bob McDonald, later to play for Northern Ireland and Rangers, was at right-half.

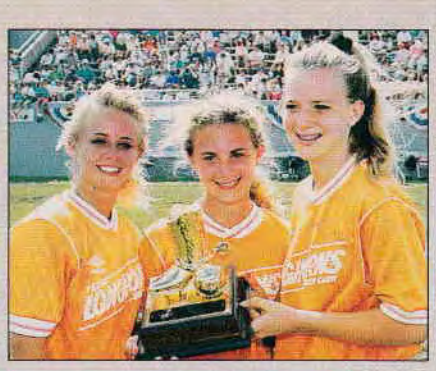
Sandwiched between the big names were Shawsheen Village from Massa-chusetts, who won the Cup in 1925.

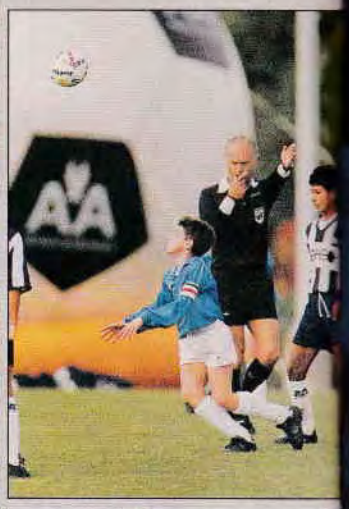
The Austro-Hungarian influence, which had started in 1926, came to the fore in 1929 as New York Hakoah won the Cup over Madison Kennals. The winners included three men named Lajos, a Laszlo, a Bela, and an Erno.

After 1939 the Open Cup lost some of its lustre, but the competition was of some importance in the years following World War Two and was won by teams such as Ponta Delgada of Fall River, St. Louis Simpkins, St. Louis Kutis, Los Angeles Kickers and Philadelphia Ukrainian Nationals.

More recently the New York Pancyprian Freedoms and Brooklyn Italians gained entry into the CONCACAF Champions' Cup by winning the Open Cup.

But as the gates and interest decline, an event that once rated headlines in the New York press has fallen on very difficult times.





American Airlines DALLAS CUP XIV

American Airlines Dallas Cup XIV, 1993 by Paul Gardner

Best in the west

Real have the grit for Dallas Cup success

THE international atmosphere of the Dallas Cup makes itself felt even before a ball has been kicked.

At the Harvey Hotel, on the day before the tournament begins, all the foreign teams gather to have the photo-passes prepared.

It's not a large hotel and suddenly it's wall-to-wall soccer kids, from a crowded lobby, to a jammed staircase, and on to swarming corridors where the players stand in line, or sit on the floor, or lean against the walls waiting for their turn.

There they are, little kids aged 11, big kids aged 19, a myriad of varying coloured sweatsuits and uniforms, a babble of different languages.

The wonderful thing is that they all have something in common. Not just the football . . . they're all smiling and laughing.

Teams from 22 different countries, getting ready for eight days of . . . wall-to-wall soccer. Actually, it's not just the kids.

At the Dallas Cup they've always made a big deal of the referees, so there's swarms of them in the hotel, too.

About one hundred of them from Europe and Latin America and the States attending a nine-hour seminar on "World Cup Match Control."

Many of the foreign teams stay with families, some of them stay at the Harvey.

There, every morning at breakfast time, they pass slowly through the buffet, picking up their cereal and their eggs and their fruit — and always studiously avoiding a huge pan of some thick, sludgy white liquid. They stare at it, maybe even move the spoon around in it, but none of the kids ever takes any.

The hotel people put it out anyway, day after day. It's called grits, a local delicacy that nobody wants.

But that's probably the only slice of Texas hospitality that doesn't go over big here. Correction.

There's always the Texas weather, absurdly changeable at this time of the year. There was rain this year, rain that wiped out a whole day's play, and left a lot of the fields sticky and muddy.

The local authorities were said to have spent some $20,000 draining them to get them ready for the kick-off.

And then it rained again. But the Dallas Cup organizers are wizards at rearranging games, and by the final day, everything was in order, all the finalists decided.

You get to the stadium — it's a high school American football place called Wildcat-Ram stadium — at 8 am, you and a few hundred other early risers. You sit in the warm sunshine . . . and you enjoy as delightful a game as you could wish for. These are the under-12 boys, US Voluntas from Italy against Monterrey from Mexico.

Such skill, such soccer intelligence in

Super Group champions Real Madrid (above).

Real Madrid's Victor Fernandez bursts past a West Ham player (left).

such tiny bodies. Pele should have seen this, his Beautiful Game come to life.

It ends 3-0 to the Mexicans, the players embrace, even the coaches.

There are tears, of course, but laughter and smiles, too. The highlight of the day, nothing quite came up to that afterwards.

Certainly not the second game, between under-14s from the Texans and the Maryland Olympic Development Program.

Nothing but senseless charging about. In the under-16 final, the Monterrey club was back again with its older boys, this time losing out to a disciplined but unspectacular team from Tbilisi, Georgia.

A bit of a mismatch at the under-19 level, 6-0 to the Austrians from Stahl Linz over Germany's Bremerhaven.

The Austrians will be invited back next year — but they'll be in the super under-19 division for sure. That's the featured attraction, the super-division final. It comes on at night, at 8 pm, by which time the stadium is packed, over 10,000 fans, with those who can't get in lining the fence outside. West Ham United won this one

Arturo Angeles shows the red card during Fiorentina's match against Real (above).

Fiorentina's Eddy Baggio in action against Northglen Thunder (right).

last year, beating Tahuichi of Bolivia 2-1 in a memorable final.

A different story this time. Tahuichi — who have been in the last six finals — didn't make it past the first round. Their own fault, for losing a game they should have won against Costa Rica's Alajuelense.

All Tahuichi could do was to win their final game by a big margin . . . and wait.

They duly overran the Cisco Asylum from Phoenix, Arizona 8-0, but it wasn't enough. West Ham, who arrived without four of their top players, also struggled.

Down 2-0 to Alta Loma Arsenal from California, they rallied to draw 2-2. That was enough to give them a wild-card slot in a quarter-final against Real Madrid.

Not a happy experience — West Ham ended up on the wrong end of 5-0 scoreline. Real were simply too experienced, too skillful, and too powerful.

The revelation of the tournament were the Americans from Alta Loma. Having topped their group ahead of West Ham, they were the only American team (out of 12) to reach the quarter-finals.

There, they beat FC Tatran from Slovakia 2-1, and then gave Boca Juniors quite a scare in the semi-final. It went to extra time before Boca won it 2-1.

Arsenal proved to be a very good looking American team that earned ringing praise from the journalists present for their skillful soccer. Boca, bulging with individual talent, seemed to delight in making their games difficult.

In the quarter-final they were clearly superior to Guadalajara, and Juan Benavidez put them ahead with the goal of the tournament — lifting the ball softly over one defender, then another, and cracking a left-foot volley into the top corner as he fell.

But Boca allowed Guadalajara to square the game. In extra time, Boca went ahead, and allowed the Mexicans to level again. It needed a suspense-filled shoot-out before Boca won the game. Boca's opponents in the final, Real Madrid, got a huge slice of luck to win their first-round group.

The final game against Mexico's UNAM Pumas, was never going to be easy.

Pumas featured four players who had just returned from playing for Mexico in the World Youth Championship in Australia. The luck for Real arrived just as the game kicked off.

The heavens opened and down came 10 minutes of heavy, drenching rain. For a team like the Pumas, with their intricate dribbling skills and short passing game, that was bad news.

Even so, they had Real chasing shadows in midfield for most of the game. This was the fans' favourite game, with constant cheering as the Pumas went ahead 1-0.

Real equalised when a long ball going nowhere hit the wet turf and zipped over the Pumas goalkeeper, keeping just low enough to go into the goal. Real's winner was another fluke — a deflection.

For the rest, it was all Pumas, who were cheered lustily off the field for the most entertaining soccer of the tournament. Real went on to a riotous semi-final against Fiorentina. The Italians had been looking good, with the usual strong defence and Eddy Baggio, brother of Roberto, proving a lively menace up front.

Against Real, it all fell apart. A niggly game, not a good advertisement for the pro clubs. After an hour, one Real player and two Italians had been sent off, and things seemed to have settled down, with the score at 1-1.

A 25-yard blast from Pedro Velasco made it 2-1 to Real in the first period of extra time. Two minutes into the second period, Fiorentina managed to get three players dismissed in the space of a minute, which left them with only six on the field, and the game was terminated.

Boca continued to make matters difficult for themselves. Their star striker Favio Marquez, sent off in the quarter-final, had sat out the semi-final, and was now ready for Real Madrid.

No, said Boca coach Oscar Blanco, he's suspended for the rest of the tournament, and must learn some discipline.

In the final, Boca mostly defended, but attacked intelligently whenever they could. At the 30-minute mark they managed a 5-on-2 break, but Real somehow cleared.

Real, always a physically strong team, took command as Boca tired. It had to go to extra time before Victor Fernandez — surely the best player of the tournament — slammed the ball into the net. Two more goals for Real followed.

Bill Stroube, the director of the Dallas Cup, has always said that it is his intention, with the super group, to give American clubs the opportunity to play against the best in the world, and to let the Dallas fans get a look at the best in the world.

This year's tournament marked a big step forward towards that aim.

AMERICAN AIRLINES DALLAS CUP XIV

SUPER GROUP (Under 19 Boys)

Quarter-finals

Real Madrid (Spa)	5	West Ham (Eng)	0
Fiorentina (Ita)	2	LD Alajuelense (CR)	1
Boca Juniors (Arg)	3	CD Guadalajara (Mex)	2
Arsenal (US)	2	Tatran Presov (Slovak)	1

Semi-finals

Real Madrid	2	Fiorentina	1
Boca Juniors	2	Arsenal	1

Final

REAL MADRID	3	Boca Juniors	0 (a.e.t.)

GROUP A (Under 19 Boys)

Quarter-finals

Stahl Linz (Aut)	4	SA Chargers (US)	1
Bonita Rebels (US)	3	Knowsley Youth (Eng)	2
FC Lerk Brno (Cze)	2	Royal Navy (Eng)	0
Bremerhaven (Ger)	4	Real Madrid (US)	0

Semi-finals

Stahl Linz	3	Bonito Rebels	1
Bremerhaven	4	FC Lerk Brno	3

Final

STAHL LINZ	6	Bremerhaven	0

GROUP B (Under 16 Boys)

Quarter-finals

Lema (Geo)	3	Essex Schools (Eng)	2
Pasadena Exiles (US)	3	NSL Select (Can)	1
Dallas Texans (US)	3	Cisco Bandidos (US)	0
CF Monterrey (Mex)	5	Dallas Texans (US)	3

Semi-finals

Lema	2	Pasadena Exiles	1
CF Monterrey	4	Dallas Texans	2

Final

LEMA	2	CF Monterrey	0

GROUP C (Under 14 Boys)

Quarter-finals

Louisiana ODP (US)	2	Dallas Inter (US)	1
Maryland ODP (US)	*	Gavilanes (Mex)	0
Texans (US)	3	Adiur (Arg)	0
Nomads (US)	2	Dallas Texans (US)	1

Semi-finals

Maryland ODP	2	Louisiana ODP	1
Texans	2	Nomads	0

Final

TEXANS	2	Maryland ODP	1 (a.e.t.)

GROUP D (Under 19 Boys)

Quarter-finals

US Voluntas (Ita)	4	Delco Dragons (US)	0
CD Guadalajara (Mex)	3	Peel Halton (Can)	1
Adiur (Arg)	1	Regios (Mex)	0
CF Monterrey (Mex)	3	Missouri ODP (US)	0

Semi-finals

US Voluntas	1	Guadalajara	0
CF Monterrey	3	Adiur	0

Final

CF MONTERREY	3	US Voluntas	0

GROUP E (Under 19 Girls)

Quarter-finals

Dallas Magic (US)	1	Coast Soccer (US)	0
PV Shamrocks (US)	3	Sola Red (US)	2
MV Hurricanes (US)	2	Sting (US)	0
Texas Longhorns (US)	3	Texas Spirit (US)	1

Semi-finals

Dallas Magic	1	PV Shamrocks	0
Texas Longhorns	1	MV Hurricanes	0

Final

TEXAS LONGHORNS	2	Dallas Magic	*

GROUP F (Under 16 Girls)

Semi-finals

D'Feeters (US)	4	Villa Bratz (US)	2
Texas Spirit (US)	5	Sting (US)	4

Final

TEXAS SPIRIT	2	D'Feeters	0 (a.e.t.)

Past Super Group (U-19) Champions

1980	Texas Longhorns
1981	Royal Navy (England)
1982	Lagos (Nigeria)
1983	NSL Select
1984	NSL Select (Canada)
1985	Trebor Lions (Nigeria)
1986	Dallas Comets
1987	Tahuichi (Bolivia)
1988	Tahuichi
1989	Tahuichi
1990	Tahuichi
1991	Moscow Dynamo (USSR)
1992	West Ham United

BRIAN HOMEWOOD examines the scandal of TV coverage in Brazil

Greedy Globo

IF *TV Globo* asked Brazil to play their next home match at 2 am on an oil rig in the middle of the Atlantic, they would get their way.

Brazilian television, and the all-powerful *Globo* network in particular, holds an influence over the Brazilian game which is matched only by its total lack of consideration for the country's viewers.

Kick-offs in Brazil are timed to fit programme schedules rather than vice-versa, no matter how ridiculous the time may be.

Flamengo's matches in the Libertadores Cup, for instance, have been starting at 9.50 pm on weekdays, because *Globo* stubbornly refuse to alter the horrendous schedule of three hours of soap operas a night, Monday to Saturday. The pattern is the same for all televised matches. When *Globo* do not transmit the match, kick-off is at 8.30 pm. But when there is a party political broadcast (18 minutes), kick-off is 8.50 pm. If *Globo* are televising, kick-off is 9.30 pm. Unless there is a party political broadcast, in which case we have the dreaded 9.50 pm start.

The connection between kick-off times and television schedules is as clear as could be, yet nobody is willing to own up and admit it.

A 9.50 start plays havoc with attendances, with most supporters choosing to stay at home. Only 3,000 watched Flamengo play Atletico Nacional in the first round of the Libertadores Cup.

The networks tried to get over the problem by announcing they would not be showing Flamengo's games live in Rio.

But they then went ahead and showed them every time, so people soon began to see through the trick. Quite why they persisted with it is a mystery.

Globo's power is quite extraordinary, and they often try to spread it into neighbouring countries when Brazil play there.

Meanwhile, the networks flee from competition. On a recent Libertadores Cup night, *Globo* and *Bandeirantes* both showed Flamengo demolishing Minerven of Venezuela, and neither bothered with the much more appetising encounter between Newell's Old Boys and Sao Paulo.

During the World Cup, it is quite common for up to four networks to show the same match at the same time.

On the plus side, however, *Bandeirantes* are firmly committed to football, which is more than can be said for *Globo*, who merely jump on the bandwagon for the big matches.

Bandeirantes are often worth watching just for the commentary, especially when Silvio Luiz is at the microphone.

Apart from his outspoken comments — Luiz has been threatened with lawsuits — he can liven up even the most boring matches.

During one particularly dull Sao Paulo championship game, he spent 20 minutes explaining the origin of the word "sandwich".

In another, he preferred to ponder on what happens to owls then they get old, instead of concentrating on the action (or lack of it) on the pitch.

But *Bandeirantes* are a small network and cannot compete with *Globo*'s money. During the last Copa America, *Globo* bought exclusive rights simply to block *Bandeirantes*, then showed hardly any of the action.

Instead of the best of South American football, Brazil's armchair fans were given soap operas.

Media style . . . reporters try to interview Fluminense goalkeeper Ricardo Pinto as he organises a defensive wall.

Fiery Flamengo

"POW. Biff. Baff. Zack. Ouch." Batman in action? Or could it be Flamengo playing football?

All of a sudden the players have been taken by a strange desire to attack people. Opponents are the most common victims, but referees and reporters have been figuring, too.

Junior Baiano, Flamengo's centre-back, the nearest thing in Brazil to Vinnie Jones, has been in the thick of things. The entire Flamengo delegation went to a police station in North-Eastern Brazil when Junior Baiano was accused of punching a TV reporter at a Brazil Cup game against America/Natal.

Junior Baiano denied the attack, but TV pictures showed otherwise. He was released after three hours at the station.

Theoretically, the crime carries two to four years in prison, but nothing more is likely to be heard of the matter.

Two weeks later, Junior Baiano punched an opponent during another Brazil Cup game, against Paysandu. Flamengo's directors made noises about punishing the player but never did anything, while his team-mates backed him up, saying that Carlos Andre — the opponent involved — had been provoking them all along.

Junior Baiano was not punished during the match itself, because referee and linesmen did not see anything.

Similarly, he had got away with hitting Vasco's Edmundo last year, because the officials did not see that, either.

JB was then guilty of a foul on Luis Morales, of Venezuelan team Minerven, in a Libertadores Cup match.

Flamengo won 8-2, Minerven were as harmless as a blancmange, but not even those facts could stop him from clipping Morales.

Junior, a pleasant and friendly character off the pitch, has not been the only culprit. Team-mate Nelio punched an opponent during last month's 1-1 draw with Botafogo and once again the referee missed — or, possibly, preferred not to see — the incident.

SILLY SCORERS

BRAZIL'S referees have been ordered to get tough on something which is seriously worrying the CBF — players dancing on the pitch to celebrate a goal.

Brazilian players celebrate scoring by forming a group and going through an elaborate choreographed routine.

Corinthians have been at the vanguard of the movement and their creations have included the "kangaroo dance" with players forming a line and hopping down the pitch, hands raised in the same manner as the Australian marsupial's paws.

Others prefer the so-called "crab-dance" or the "Red Sea dance", in which the players stand in a line and then collapse, half to the left and the other to the right.

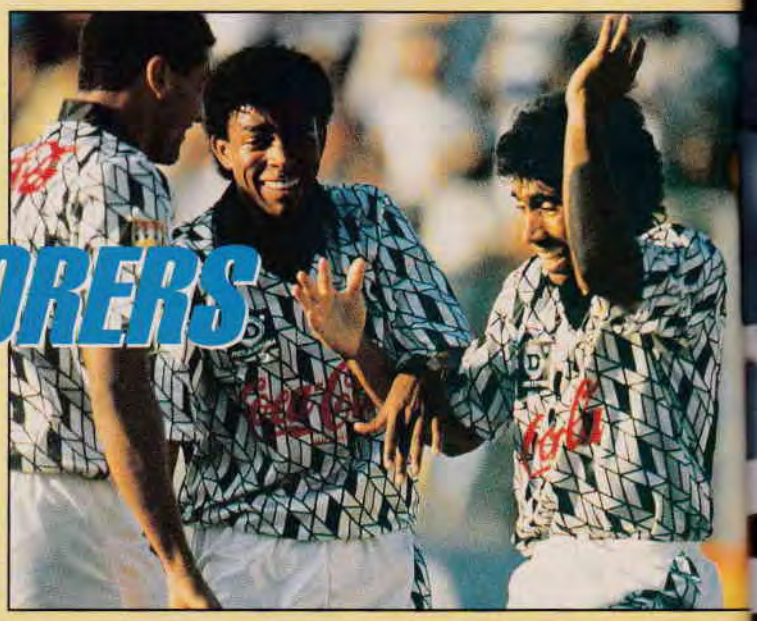
There are other variations, some of extremely dubious taste, in addition to the now common "telephone celebration" in which the scorer celebrates by running to the public telephone behind the goal (most Brazilian stadiums, believe it or not, have them) and then pretends to dial.

The CBF do not like it, and referees have been ordered to book players who "celebrate off the pitch" or "hold up the re-start of the game" with their routines.

One would think the CBF could have other priorities, especially given some of the recent refereeing performances. Corinthians were among the victims when a legitimate goal against Sao Paulo was disallowed "because the ball had gone out of play." Replays showed that it had not even gone close to doing so.

The players were already halfway through their dance routine before they saw the flag.

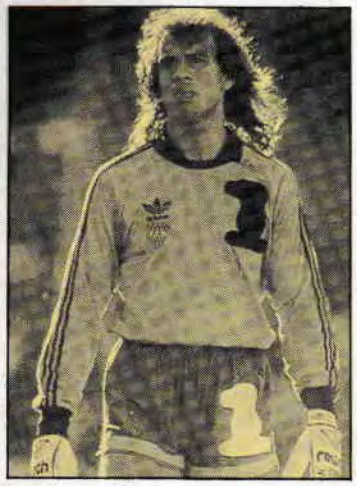
The linesman concerned was later "put in the fridge" (suspended) for 80 days. Then there was the referee who insisted on seeing a match through to



Goal happy . . . Joao Santos leads the celebrations after a Bragantino goal.

Argentina

Boca try to make a point



BOCA JUNIORS, winners of this season's national opening Championship, are breaking off relations with the Argentina FA and considering taking them to court.

The reason is that one of their players, midfielder Alejandro Giuntini, turned up late for a post-match drug test . . . so late that the doctor had gone home.

As a result the disciplinary committee took the point they gained in the match off them, gave it to Velez Sarsfield, and suspended Giuntini for four months.

The result, changed from a 1-1 draw to a 1-0 win, gave Velez a one-point lead after eight of 19 matches of the closing championship and dropped Boca back to joint third, three points behind.

At the same time there was trouble in the Boca boardroom. One group want goalkeeper Navarro Montoya (left) to be captain and another want striker Marcico.

Some of the players are not even on talking terms as a result.

River Plate, who went out of the Libertadores Cup at the first stage because of their lack of goals, suddenly found their shooting boots to score 11 in their last three games.

This was enough to lift them into second place, a point behind Velez Sarsfield.

The improvement has a lot to do with newcomer Ariel Ortega up front, a return to form by Uruguayan attacking half Ruben Da Silva, and Ramon Medina Bello's powerful shooting.

River Plate must take the blame

THE surprise of the Libertadores Cup's first round — played in five groups of four clubs each — was the elimination of Argentina's River Plate.

Only the bottom team in each group is eliminated at this stage, and River Plate were challenging for honours in their national championship — reckoned to be about the strongest in South America.

River had only themselves to blame. Their lack of finishing let them down in most matches, but then came one of those bizarre situations which will happen every year under the current format, which entails 60 matches and possible play-offs — two this year — to eliminate a mere five of the 20 teams.

Argentina's Newell's Old Boys and Paraguay's Cerro Porteno each needed a point in their last match (against each other) to qualify for the second round, and eliminate River Plate. The result was 1-1. Now there'a surprise.

"According to the referee's report everything went normally," a Federation spokesman said.

Group 1 might have had a different result, too. Peru's Universitario, playing their last games in Venezuela, sent seven first-teamers home to rest for their next league game after drawing 2-2 with Minerven, to qualify. Caracas FC, the other Venezuelan team, needed a win to qualify outright, while defeat would have put them out.

Against the weakened Universitario they managed a draw to force a play-off, but justice was done when Minerven won it.

Perhaps the strangest incident of the first round was the claim lodged by Paraguayan Ramon Hicks (playing for Bolivia's San Jose) for three teeth knocked out by Cobreloa (Chile) defender Alvaro Barco.

RAMON DIAZ, the former Argentine international striker, has followed the big-money trail to Japan, to play for Nissan in the newly-formed J-League.

He bought out his contract with River Plate for $400,000.

the end even though the pitch had become completely waterlogged and there was a serious risk of injury.

Palmeiras scored in the tenth minute before the heavens opened, and held on to beat Ponte Preta 1-0.

Interestingly, Ponte Preta players and directors were screaming at the referee to stop the match early in the second half, but their protests came to an abrupt halt in the 60th minute.

Could this be connected to the rule which says that a replay takes place if a match is abandoned before the two-thirds mark and the result stand if it is stopped afterwards? Surely not!

Two days later, there was more trouble, and Corinthians were again on the wrong end.

First, Bragantino were awarded a penalty for hands even though there was no way Paulo Sergio could have got out of the way of Gil Baiano's rocket. Gil Baiano converted the kick.

Two minutes later, Corinthians had what would have been their equaliser disallowed for deliberate hands, shown by the one-eyed monster not to have taken place.

That was too much for the faithful, who did not need to wait for the replay before throwing stones on to the pitch, fighting with police and eventually causing the match to be abandoned.

As usual Sao Paulo manager Tele Santana has been one of the most outspoken critics of referees.

Far from doing anything about the officials, the authorities simply hauled him up before a tribunal for "unsporting behaviour" on the pretext that he abandoned the bench during a match in disgust at a decision.

Santana threatened to abandon football if punished.

"I can't be judged by people who nobody knows and who have done nothing for football," he said.

"In 40 years I always tried to defend football. Why is there this campaign against me?"

As far as the championships were concerned, Fluminense won the first stage in Rio without losing a match, capitalising on the mistakes of Vasco, Botafogo and Flamengo.

BRIAN **HOMEWOOD**

Colombia

Faustino's ups and downs

STRIKER Faustino Asprilla (left) has been dominating the news in a way few of his countrymen do.

"Tino" had been doing extremely well with Italian club Parma, with his exploits in Italian domestic matches and the Cup-winners' Cup often shown on TV.

Then, while on a brief return to his homeland, he badly injured a leg in an off-field accident that had various explanations, and was likely to end his season.

Deportivo Cali goalkeeper Jorge Rayo was badly hurt as well, in a clash of heads as his team lost 5-1 to Once Philips.

He collapsed, resumed playing, collapsed again and was taken to hospital, but later released. Three players were sent off, and there were 11 bookings.

Deportivo Huila, newly promoted from Division B, have been doing well — too well for Sante Fe coach Jorge Luis Pinto. A 2-1 home defeat by Huila cost him his job.

Roberto Perfumo, who played for Argentina in the 1966 World Cup, has taken over.

KEITH **SMITH**

Chile

FERNANDO ASTENGO (below), the international defender banned by FIFA for five years following Chile's walk-off in a 1989 World Cup qualifier against Brazil, has had his ban lifted, but still has trouble.

He signed for Chile's Union Espanola, then found he could not play for them, because the Brazilian FA refused to give him an international clearance certificate — he last played for Gremio in that country — until he settles a lawsuit for alimony pending in Brazil.

Paraguay

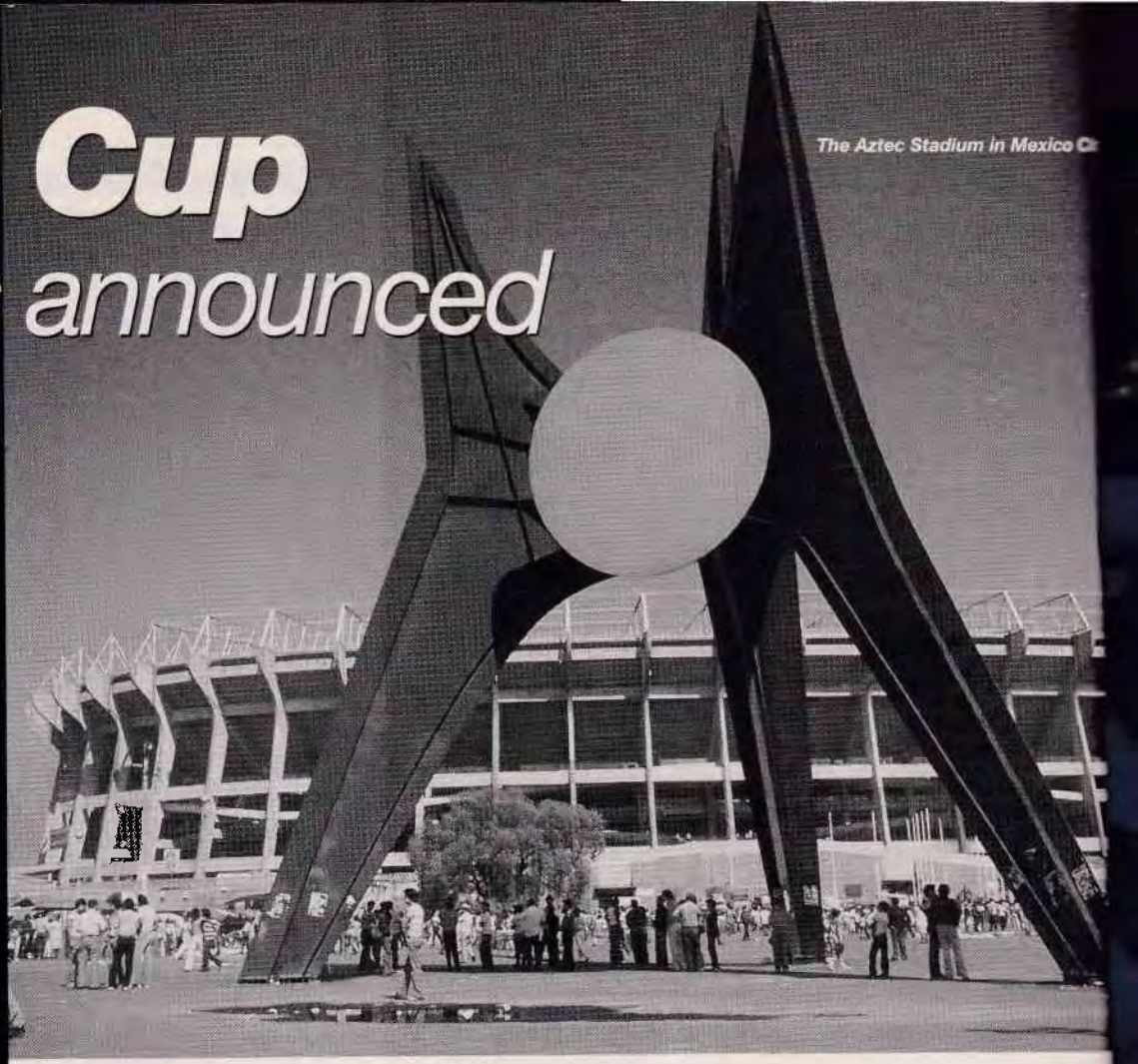
IN PARAGUAY Cerro Porteno, Olimpia, Guarani and Cerro Cora qualified for the semi-finals of the "Championship of the Republic" in which 10 Asuncion First Division teams and six from the provinces play in groups, with the top eight qualifying for a knockout.

Only one team from outside the First Division had reached that stage — Guarani Oviedo — while Cerro Porteno and Olimpia did it while engaged in the Libertadores Cup and frequently reserving their best players for that competition.

IN BOLIVIA the majority of the 15 professional league clubs have cancelled their players' contracts in view of the pre-season strike which led the FA not to start the championship until the end of August (when Bolivia complete World Cup qualifying games). This means that over 400 players are out of work, the lucky ones being those of champions Bolivar (engaged in the Libertadores Cup) and the national team.

ERIC **WEIL**

Gold Cup venues announced



The Aztec Stadium in Mexico C

CARIBBEAN NEWS BY VIRGIL MATTHEWS

THE Aztec Stadium in Mexico City and the Cotton Bowl in Dallas will be the venues for the 1993 Gold Cup next July.

CONCACAF president Jack Warner, announcing the decision at City Hall in Dallas, said: "The opportunity to stage the aGold Cup in two of North America's most vibrant cities was extremely appealing.

"The facilities are first class and are more than capable of embracing this tremendous spectacle."

Defending champions, the United States, will be joined in the final round by Mexico, Canada, Honduras, Costa Rica, Panama and two nations from the Caribbean region, with $250,000 in prize money on offer — $100,000 of it going to the winners.

The eight finalists will be split in to two groups of four, with the winners and runners-up qualifying for the semi-finals.

Warner said: "The programme we have set out to establish is an ambitious one. To stage the final round of a major international competition in two countries is a monumental risk."

The 1991 Gold Cup was staged in Los Angeles and Pasadena, California and, thanks to its success, CONCACAF soccer was exposed to a wider audience, prompting the decision to use two countries this time.

Peru

IN PERU Alianza Lima led the First Division standings undefeated after seven games.

Uruguay

IN URUGUAY the First Division started with title holders Nacional getting one of only two victories on the opening day — 1-0 v Racing Club.

Last season's top scorer, Panamanian Julio Dely Valdez, hit the goal.

The Championship will be suspended on July 17 while Uruguay play World Cup qualifying matches, but will continue throughout the earlier Copa America.

National team players will not be allowed to turn out for their clubs after June 1.

This will be hard on the leading clubs, but one change to benefit those missing their best players is that relegation will be based on total points obtained this season and last, with the bottom club going down.

Mexico ERIC WEIL

ATLANTE AND NECAXA FIRST TO GO ON

WITH three games to go in the Mexican First Division, before the top two teams in each of four groups qualify for the quarter finals, only Atlante and Necaxa, group one and two leaders respectively, have clinched their places and improving America's expensive line-up has moved into the second qualifying place in group two.

Several leading teams are missing their internationals at this vital stage as they train exclusively with the national team engaged in World Cup qualifying games, but they will be back to help their teams in the quarter-final stage . . . if they qualify.

Necaxa's Chilean, Ivo Basay continues as individual top scorer with 25 goals.

Puerto Rico qualify for Shell Cup

PUERTO RICO are the first team to qualify for the final round of the 1993 Shell Caribbean Cup, having won a qualifying tournament in Guyana.

The four-team qualifying round, group two in Georgetown was delayed by torrential rain and the teams had to cram six matches into only four days.

Puerto Rico opened with a 1-0 victory against Barbados, Danny Mueller's goal deciding it. The following day the Puerto Ricans had a much easier 2-0 win against hosts Guyana, Mueller and Brian Conlon scoring.

That same day, Barbados put in a tremendous performance to crush the Cayman Islands 6-1, with Trevor Thorne scoring a hat-trick and Tyrone White netting twice.

On the final day of these qualifiers, Puerto Rico clinched their place in the final round in Jamaica with a 4-0 victory over the Cayman Islands, with a hat-trick by Conlon and a single goal by defender Mark Lugris — who scored the opening goal of the 1994 World Cup qualifiers in March 1992 — against the Dominican Republic.

Runners-up Barbados closed their account with a 3-0 win over Guyana — White adding two more goals, to finish as joint top scorer, on four, with Conlon and Thorne.

SHELL CARIBBEAN CUP
Qualifying Round
Group 2 *(Georgetown, Guyana)*

11.03.93	Puerto Rico v Barbados	1-0
11.03.93	Guyana v Cayman Islands	3-2
12.03.93	Guyana v Puerto Rico	0-2
12.03.93	Barbados v Cayman Islands	6-1
14.03.93	Puerto Rico v Cayman Islands	4-0
14.03.93	Guyana v Barbados	0-3

Final table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
PUERTO RICO	3	3	0	0	7	0	6
Barbados	3	2	0	1	9	2	4
Guyana	3	1	0	2	6	7	2
Cayman Islands	3	0	0	3	3	13	0

Goalgetter Obando

HONDURAN international Cesar Obando has won the 1992 World Goalgetter award from the International Federation of Football History and Statistics.

The award is given to the player who scores the most goals in internationsl club competitions and full internationals. Obando, the 23-year-old Montagua striker, scored 12 goals — all in full internationals — to tie with Dennis Bergkamp of Ajax and Holland and Rai of Sao Paulo and Brazil, but won the award for having scored more of his goals against international sides.

Two Mexicans — Luis Roberto Alves and Francisco Uribe — also figured in the top ten.

Seven of Alves' 10 goals came for CONCACAF champions Club America in the American Airlines Cup, while Uribe, like Obando, scored all his nine goals in full internationals.

Obando is the first Central American player to win the award, which went to Jean-Pierre Papin in 1991 for his efforts with Marseille and France.

CONCACAF WORLD CUP REVIEW BY JOHN KELLY

Canada lead the way

CANADA hold a surprise lead at the halfway stage in the final round of the CONCACAF World Cup qualifiers, ahead of favourites Mexico.

Mexico, for so long the dominant team in the Central American region, are favourites to qualify direct for the finals in the United States, and coach Miguel Baron knows that failure to do so will cost him his job.

Cesar Menotti, who led Argentina to victory in the 1978 World Cup, guided the new-look Mexican side to the final round, then fell out with his employers and resigned, leaving Baron with the task of picking up the pieces.

Honduras entered the final round in buoyant mood after their success at the UNCAF Championship, where they beat group-rivals El Salvador 3-0. That defeat led to El Salvador's elimination, by the flip of a coin, from the Gold Cup and was not the sort of preparation coach Jorge Vieira had hoped for

The Canadians opened against Honduras in Tegucigalpa with a 2-2 draw. John Catliff put them ahead in the 34th minute but Cesar Obando equalised for the home side six minutes later. Alex Bunbury restored the Canadians' lead in the 68th minute, and an away win looked likely until two minutes from time when Smith levelled.

Mexico, with veteran Hugo Sanchez in the side, began with an upset — a 2-1 defeat away to El Salvador. A Castro penalty four minutes before the interval gave the El Salvadorians the edge and, despite an equaliser by Garcia Aspe, the 50,000 fans went home happy after Iraheta's late winner.

Mexico and Honduras then met in Mexico City and, with poor results from their opening matches putting pressure on both players and coaches, the game was a bad-tempered scrap. Eight players were booked and Mexico's Herrera was sent off in the 26th minute.

Canada's Norman (13) holds off Rivera of El Salvador.

Mexico, despite the shortage in manpower, and to the relief of coach Baran, won 3-0 with an early goal by Flores, a Hugo Sanchez penalty and a last-minute effort by Ambriz.

Canada meanwhile, continued their challenge against El Salvador in Burnaby with a 2-0 win — Catliff and Bunbury again providing the goals for Bobby Lenarduzzi's team.

Lenarduzzi, 37, is a former Canadian World Cup and Olympic defender and has been in charge less than 14 months. He combines his work with the national squad with his other job as head coach of the Canadian Soccer League side Vancouver Eighty-Sixers.

He won 47 full caps and represented Canada at the 1986 World Cup in Mexico, as did four of his current squad, including the former West Brom winger Carl Valentine.

Five British-based players form the backbone of Lenarduzzi's side with five Vancouver players adding the flesh.

The third round of matches in the group provided 3-1 home wins for Canada, against Honduras, and for Mexico, against El Salvador.

Honduras took a surprise 17th-minute lead, through Alex Pineda but a dramatic second half completely altered the outcome. Mobilio equalised in the 51st minute and 10 minutes later Catliff gave Canada the lead after Honduras keeper Bautista fumbled a corner.

Five minutes later Bautista was dismissed for striking Bunbury in the penalty area and Catliff scored from the spot to make it 3-1. To complete a miserable day for Honduras, midfielder Funez also was sent off.

That defeat prompted the Honduran coach, Jose Malinowski, to resign, with Flavio Ortega replacing him.

Mexico, roared on by 120,000 fans in the Aztec Stadium, completely dominated their niggly match against El Salvador — Ambriz, Luis Garcia and Ramon Ramirez scoring for the home side before Oscar Ulloa's consolation strike near the end for El Salvador.

That leaves Canada top of the group on five points, one ahead of Mexico, with Honduras and El Salvador left with a lot of work to do.

REMAINING ARGENTINE FIXTURES

SUNDAY, 16 MAY
Boca Juniors v Gimnasia
Racing Club v Newell's OB
Platense v River Plate
Maniyu v F.C. Oeste
Talleres v Huracan
Lanus v Velez Sarsfield
San Lorenzo v Belgrano
Argentinos Juniors v San Martin
Rosario Central v Espanol
Estudiantes v Independiente

SUNDAY, 23 MAY
Independiente v Boca Juniors
Espanol v Estudiantes
San Martin v Rosario Central
Belgrano v Argentinos Juniors
Velez Sarsfield v San Lorenzo
Huracan v Lanus
F.C. Oeste v Talleres
River Plate v Mandiyu
Newell's OB v Platense
Gimnasia v Racing Club

SUNDAY, 30 MAY
Boca Juniors v Racing Club
Platense v Gimnasia
Mandiyu v Newell's OB
Talleres v River Plate
Lanus v F.C. Oeste
San Lorenzo v Huracan
Argentinos Juniors v Velez Sarsfield
Rosario Central v Belgrano
Estudiantes v San Martin
Independiente v Espanol

WEDNESDAY, 2 JUNE
Espanol v Boca Juniors
San Martin v Independiente
Belgrano v Estudiantes
Velez Sarsfield v Rosario Central
Huracan v Argentinos Juniors
F.C. Oeste v San Lorenzo
River Plate v Lanus
Newell's OB v Talleres
Gimnasia v Mandiyu
Racing Club v Platense

SUNDAY, 6 JUNE
Boca Juniors v Platense
Mandiyu v Racing Club
Talleres v Gimnasia
Lanus v Newell's OB
San Lorenzo v River Plate
Argentinos v F.C. Oeste
Rosario Central v Huracan
Estudiantes v Velez Sarsfield
Independiente v Belgrano
Espanol v San Martin

SUNDAY, 13 JUNE
San Martin v Boca Juniors
Belgrano v Espanol
Velez Sarsfield v Independiente
Huracan v Estudiantes
F.C. Oeste v Rosario Central
River Plate v Argentinos Juniors
Newell's OB v San Lorenzo
Gimnasia v Lanus
Racing Club v Talleres
Platense v Mandiyu

TABLES

ARGENTINA
National A Division
Closing championship

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Velez Sarsfield	8	5	2	1	10	2	12
River Plate	8	5	1	2	17	10	11
Estudiantes	8	3	3	2	13	7	9
Boca Juniors	8	3	3	2	13	10	9
San Lorenzo	8	3	3	2	12	9	9
Independiente	8	2	5	1	11	8	9
Gimnasia	8	2	5	1	8	6	9
Dep. Espanol	8	4	1	3	9	8	9
Lanus	8	2	5	1	5	4	9
Racing Club	8	4	1	3	8	8	9
Dep. Mandiyu	8	2	5	1	8	9	9
Rosario Central	8	2	4	2	7	6	8
Argentinos Jun.	8	1	6	1	4	5	8
Belgrano	8	2	4	2	6	9	8
Huracan	8	2	3	3	11	*13	7
Platense	8	2	3	3	5	7	7
Talleres	8	1	4	3	10	14	6
FC Oeste	8	2	2	4	5	10	6
San Martin	8	1	1	6	4	12	3
Newell's OB	8	0	3	5	1	10	3

Lowest relegation averages (bottom two relegated): Estudiantes 0,941; Argentinos Juniors 0,90; Talleres 0,893; San Martin 0,777.*

BRAZIL
Rio (Guanabara State) Championship — 1st stage

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Fluminense	11	8	3	0	17	6	19
Vasco da Gama	11	7	2	2	23	8	16
Flamengo	11	6	3	2	23	11	15
Botafogo	10	4	4	1	17	12	12
America/Rio	11	2	7	2	14	15	11
Bangu	11	4	3	4	8	13	11
Volta Redonda	*1	3	4	4	9	10	10
Americano	11	3	4	4	9	*5	10
Sao Cristovao	*1	2	4	5	8	*1	8
Olaria	*1	2	4	5	12	16	8
Entrerriense	*1	2	3	6	6	19	7
America/Tres Rios	*10	0	3	7	4	20	7

Fluminense win the first stage. Winners of the first stage, winners of the second stage and the team with the most points over the two combined qualify for the final stage.
America Tres Rios han 10 points deducted for fielding an ineligible player.

Sao Paulo Championship

Group A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Palmeiras	26	16	6	4	47	23	38
Sao Paulo	26	14	6	6	47	21	34
Santos	26	14	6	6	44	34	34
Corinthians	26	*9	6	7	40	31	32
Uniao Sao Joao	26	*1	10	5	42	30	32
Mogi Mirim	26	*1	10	5	40	29	32
Guarani	26	*3	5	8	35	35	31
Rio Branco	26	*1	9	6	38	29	31
Bragantino	26	9	8	9	28	29	26
Portuguesa	26	6	9	*1	38	44	21
Ituano	26	8	4	14	27	36	20
Ponte Preta	26	5	10	*1	27	37	20
XV de Piracicaba	26	4	12	*0	25	39	20
Marilia	26	4	9	*3	29	41	17
Juventus	26	5	6	15	26	51	16
Noroeste	26	4	4	18	17	50	12

Group B	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ferroviaria	23	12	8	3	43	23	32
America	23	13	5	5	34	*7	31
Novorizontino	23	12	7	4	42	24	31
Santo Andre	23	10	8	5	30	22	28
Taquaritinga	23	9	7	7	25	24	25
Saocarlense	23	8	8	7	32	30	24
Aracatuba	23	7	9	7	22	27	23
Sao Jose	23	6	11	6	22	22	23
XV de Jau	23	8	6	9	33	32	22
Sao Caetano	23	9	3	11	30	32	21
Botafogo	23	6	9	8	19	19	21
Internacional	23	6	5	12	*9	30	17
Guaratinguetaense	23	4	5	14	20	42	13
Catanduvense	23	3	5	15	*7	44	*11

The top six teams in Group A and the top two in Group B qualify for the second stage. If teams are level on points, positions are decided by the number of games won.

COLOMBIA
Opening Championship

Group A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
America Cali	7	4	2	1	16	9	10
Deportivo Cali	7	4	2	1	15	10	10
Once Philips	7	3	2	2	16	9	8
Atletico Huila	7	3	2	2	13	11	8
Pereira	7	2	2	3	8	11	6
Millonarios	7	2	2	3	8	*3	6
Independiente	7	1	2	4	8	13	4
Tolima	7	1	2	4	6	*4	4

Group B	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nacional	7	4	2	1	15	9	10
Jun. Barranquilla	7	4	1	2	11	6	9
Union Magdalena	7	4	1	2	11	12	9
Bucaramanga	7	3	1	3	9	*3	7
Independiente	7	2	3	2	7	8	7
Quindio	7	2	1	4	8	10	5
Envigado	7	1	3	3	8	10	5
Cucuta	7	1	2	4	5	9	4

Top four teams in each group qualify for final stage.

ECUADOR
First Division — After 5 games
Group 1: 1) Emelec 7 pts; 2) Liga Dep. Universitaria Quito 5; 3) Tecnico Universitario Valdez, Nacional, Delfin 1.
Group 2: Barcelona 8; 2) Green Cross 6; 3) Aucas, Deportivo Quito 5; 5) Cuenca 4; 6) Santos 2.

CHILE
Degeder Cup (pre-season tournament)
Group 1: 1) Cobreloa 8 pts; 2) Arica 7; 3) Iquique 6; 4) Antofagasta 5; 5) Cobresal Atacama 3.
Group 2: 1) Everton, La Serena 10; 3) Coquimbo 7; 4) Wanderers 6; 5) La Calera 3; 6) San Felipe 1.
Group 3: Universidad de Chile 9; 2) Magallanes 7; 3) Union Espanola 6; 4) Colchagua, Melipilla 1.
Group 4: 1) Universidad Catolica *10; 2) Colo Colo 9; 3) Palestino 6; 4) Santa Cruz 4; 5) Audax Italiano 1.
Group 5: *1) Nublense, Concepcion 7; 3) O'Higgins 6; 4) Rangers 4; 5) Lota Schwager 3.
Group 6: *1) Temuco 12; 2) Osorno 6; 3) Huachipato 5; 4) Puerto Montt 4; 5) Hernandez Via 3.

PERU
First Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Alianza Lima	7	5	2	0	20	10	*2
Sport Boys	7	4	2	1	16	6	*0
Carlos Manucci	7	4	2	1	9	5	10
Sporting Cristal	6	4	0	2	16	5	8
Melgar	7	4	0	3	15	*6	8
Dep. Municipal	7	3	1	3	10	8	7
SIPESA	6	2	2	2	6	4	6
Universitario	6	2	2	2	6	6	6
Union Huaral	7	1	4	2	13	13	6
Cienciano	7	2	2	3	5	13	6
UT Cajamarca	7	2	2	3	10	19	6
Leon de Huanuco	7	1	3	3	6	8	5
Defensor Lima	7	2	1	4	11	13	5
San Agustin	7	1	3	3	7	10	5
Union Minas	7	1	2	4	2	8	4
Alianza Sullana	6	0	4	2	10	15	4

VENEZUELA
First Division

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Mineros Guyana	23	14	5	4	33
Tachira	23	14	3	6	31
Maritimo	23	12	6	5	30
Minerven	22	11	7	4	29
Caracas FC	22	12	3	7	27
Lara	22	9	9	4	27
Monagas	23	11	5	7	27
Trujillanos	23	8	10	5	26
Anzoategui	22	9	8	5	26
Estudiantes	21	10	5	6	25
Llaneros	21	6	9	6	21
Univ. de los Andes	23	3	10	10	16
Zamora	23	4	5	14	13
Galicia	22	2	8	12	12
Italia	22	3	5	14	11
Portuguesa	22	1	4	17	6

COSTA RICA
First Division
After 27 games: 1) Herediano 38 pts; 2) Alajuelense 35; 3) Saprissa 31; 4) Cartajines 30; 5) Turrialba 29; 6) Puntarenas 28; 7) Ramonense, El Carmen 27; 9) Perez Zeledon 25; 10) Limon 23; 11) Guanacaste 16; *12) San Carlos 15.

GUATEMALA
First Division — final round
After 8 games: 1) Aurora 11; 2) Comunicaciones 10; 3) Suchitepequez 9; 4) Amatitlan 7; 5) Izabal 6; 6) Galcasa 5.

HONDURAS
First Division
After 27 games: *1) Olimpia 37 pts; 2) Petrotela 36; 3) Marathon 32; 4) Motagua 30; 5) Platense 29; 6) Real Espana, Victoria 28; 8) Real Maya 26; 9) Vida 15; 10) Super Estrella 5.

EL SALVADOR
First Division
After 30 games: 1) Luis A. Firpo, FAS 40; 3) Marte 34; 4) Alianza, ADET-Baygon 33; 6) Cojutepeque 29; 7) Tiburones 26; 8) Aquila 20; 9) Acaneca 24; 10) Fuerte San Francisco 21.

MEXICO
First Division

Group 1	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Atlante*	35	13	13	9	60	47	39
Veracruz	35	12	8	15	51	53	32
Queretaro	35	10	7	18	29	49	27
Santos	35	6	13	16	30	57	25
U. Tamaulipas	35	5	11	19	22	50	21
Group 2							
Necaxa*	35	22	7	6	74	40	51
America	35	17	9	9	46	42	43
UA Guadalajara	35	14	14	7	39	30	42
Puebla	35	*4	10	11	51	52	38
Morelia	35	8	13	14	39	55	29
Group 3							
UN Leon	35	13	14	8	52	48	40
Cruz Azul	35	*5	9	11	61	40	39
Atlas	35	12	10	13	46	48	34
Guadalajara	35	11	9	15	42	57	31
U. Guadalajara	35	8	11	16	33	52	27
Group 4							
Leon	35	16	12	7	58	33	44
Monterrey	35	15	14	6	59	36	44
UNAM	35	16	8	11	66	51	40
Toluca	35	8	13	*4	45	44	29
Pachuca	35	9	7	19	36	50	25

*After three more games top two of each section qualify for quarter-finals. Teams marked * have already qualified.*

22 MARCH MONDAY

ACTION: Bosnia lose 4-1 to Kaiserslautern in a match organised by Kaiserslautern's Demir Hotic to raise money for a home for war orphans in Bosnia . . . Scotland draw 1-1 with Iceland in an Under-21 international.

BELGIUM: National boss Paul Van Himst recalls Cagliari's Brazilian-born striker Luis Oliveira to his squad for the World Cup qualifier against Wales.

FRANCE: Marseille general manager Pierre Bernes says he watched Juventus sweeper Julio Cesar at the weekend — though speculation in England links Marseille with David Platt (below) instead . . . Auxerre skipper William Prunier, who is expected to leave at the season's end, is linked with Everton and Norwich.

ITALY: Marco Van Basten admits that his recovery from ankle surgery is not progressing as quickly as had hoped and he may not be back in action until the end of April . . . Roma's "wanted man" president Ciarrapico flies in from London to surrender himself to the investigating authorities.

SCOTLAND: No fewer than nine players, including six from champions Rangers, pull out of Scotland's squad for the friendly against Germany at Ibrox.

SPAIN: National manager Javier Clemente names eight Barcelona players plus Thomas Christiansen (on loan to Gijon from Barcelona) in his squad to face Denmark. Surprisingly omitted is Real Madrid's in-form Michel.

23 MARCH TUESDAY

ACTION: El Salvador draw 2-2 with the United States . . . three players are sent off in the Libertadores Cup tie between Cobreloa of Chile and San Jose of Bolivia . . . in the European Under-21s, Holland beat San Marino 3-0, Czechoslovakia beat Cyprus 2-0 and Germany thrash the Irish Republic 8-0.

ENGLAND: Blackburn sell US striker Roy Wegerle to Coventry in exhcnage for Scotland forward Kevin Gallacher.

HOLLAND: An ankle injury forces Dennis Bergkamp to pull out of Holland's World Cup-tie against San Marino.

PORTUGAL: Salgueiros sack Zoran Filipovic, after five years as coach.

SPAIN: Omar Pastoriza quits as Atletico Madrid coach, after 40 days, in protest at president Jesus Gil's insistence on selecting Argentine midfielder Jose Villarreal in the team.

24 MARCH WEDNESDAY

ACTION: World Cup matches resume in Europe as Italy thrash Malta 6-1 and Holland beat San Marino 6-0. But Czechoslovakia are held 1-1 in Cyprus . . . in friendlies, Israel and Russia draw 2-2 in Tel Aviv while World Cup-holders Germany beat Scotland's much-weakened side only 1-0 at Ibrox.

GREECE: Panathinaikos win 4-1 away to Apollon in a Cup semi-final first leg; in the other tie, Olympiakos win 1-0 at home to AEK.

SPAIN: Local police in Cadiz call on the federation for exemplary disciplinary action against Diego Maradona and Diego Simeone of Sevilla as well as Igor Stimac and Carmelo Navarro of Cadiz following the weekend pitched brawl in a league game which needed police intervention to restore order.

SWITZERLAND: FIFA say that proposals to charge the media for press facilities at the World Cup finals have been scrapped — at least, as far as the 1994 event in the United States is concerned.

UNITED STATES: A major advertising campaign to promote the World Cup finals is launched in New York.

25 MARCH THURSDAY

ACTION: Honduras hit back from 1-0 down to beat the United States 4-1 in a friendly in Tegucigalpa.

SWITZERLAND: FIFA confirms plans first revealed last year in *WORLD SOCCER*, to licence agents in an attempt to tighten up on the transfer business.

UNITED STATES: World Cup defender Marcelo Balboa ends four months of negotiations by agreeing his contract with the USSF.

26 MARCH FRIDAY

ITALY: League president Luciano Nizzola warns that acceptance by UEFA of president Lennart Johansson's proposals for a European Superleague could be disastrous for Italian domestic competition.

SWITZERLAND: UEFA suspend Rangers striker Mark Hateley for two matches following his expulsion in the Champions League victory over Brugge.

27 MARCH SATURDAY

ACTION: France beat Austria 1-0 in Vienna (below) in a World Cup qualifier thanks to a 58th-minute goal from Papin . . . Cremonese beat Derby 3-1 at Wembley in the Anglo-Italian Cup Final.

28 MARCH SUNDAY

ACTION: River Plate move into a three-way tie at the top of the Argentine league along with Estudiantes and Velez after winning 2-1 away to Velez . . . Bayern Munich suffer their first league defeat of the year, going down 3-1 in front of 65,000 in Hamburg . . . Giuseppe Signori takes his goals total for the season to 22 as he scores two more in Lazio's 4-0 defeat of Udinese; Milan now lead by "only" eight points over Inter after drawing 1-1 with Torino thanks to a late goal from substitute Gullit . . . Al-Arabi, coached by Colin Addison, win the Kuwait championship thanks to a last-game win by 1-0 over Qadisya.

29 MARCH MONDAY

BELGIUM: Paul Van Himst makes a late call for Antwerp forward Francis Severeyns for the World Cup qualifier against Wales.

SCOTLAND: Rangers appeal against a £7,500 UEFA fine for spectator misbehaviour in Brugge, even though Belgian police congratulated Ranegrs on their fans and the UEFA observer made no observations in his report.

SPAIN: Atletico Madrid appoint Ramon Heredia as fourth coach this season after Luis Aragones, Omar Pastoriza and caretaker Ovejero Iselin. Simultaneously, German veteran Bernd Schuster announces he will quit Atletico at the season's end, one year before the expiry of his contract . . . Diego Maradona reports another successful negative test confirming he is drug-free as a condition of his probation from a Buenos Aires court.

30 MARCH TUESDAY

ACTION: Qatar lose 6-1 at home to Norway in an international friendly . . . five European Under-21 ties bring only two victories, for Spain by 1-0 in Denmark and for Greece by 2-1 in Hungary.

AUSTRALIA: National manager Eddie Thomson and his assistant Les Scheinflug are given new contracts securing their posts until 1998.

ENGLAND: Manchester United's French forward Eric Cantona is fined £1,000 for spitting at supporters after the 1-1 draw against his old club Leeds at Elland Road . . . Liverpool manager Graeme Souness is charged with bringing the game into disrepute for abusive comments to a linesman during the 1-1 draw with Crystal Palace.

FRANCE: Marseille win 1-0 at Rouen in a second round French Cup tie. Monaco squeeze past Second Division Niort only 4-2 on penalties after a 0-0 draw.

GERMANY: Eintracht Frankfurt coach Dragoslav Stepanovic is condemned to almost certain early departure after Frankfurt lose 3-0 at home in a Cup semi-final to Bayer Leverkusen, whom he has already announced he intends to join at the season's end.

HOLLAND: Second Division Heerenveen come from 1-0 down to beat Den Bosch 2-1 in the first of the Cup semi-finals.

ITALY: Milan beat Roma 1-0 in their Cup semi-final second leg but lose 2-1 on aggregate even though Roma play the last 13 minutea with 10 men after the expulsion of defender Luigi Garzya. In the 88th minute keeper Cervone saves Roma with a penalty stop from Papin.

SCOTLAND: Rangers virtually seal their title grip by defeating pursuers Aberdeen 2-0 at Ibrox.

TEAM of the MONTH

Auxerre . . . for reaching the semi-finals of the UEFA Cup, knocking out holders Ajax in the process.

31 MARCH
WEDNESDAY

ACTION: World Cup qualifying wins for England (2-0 in Turkey), for the Irish Republic (3-0 at home to Northern Ireland), for Wales (2-0 at home to Belgium), Greece (1-0 in Hungary) and Denmark (1-0 at home to Spain). Switzerland are held 1-1 at home by Portugal . . . Poland and Lithuania draw 1-1 in a friendly . . . Minerven beat Caracas FC 1-0 in an all-Venezuelan Libertadores Cup tie. Minerven thus qualifying for the second round at the expense of their compatriots.

GERMANY: Dragoslav Stepanovic, predicatably, quits as Eintracht Frankfurt coach . . . but the day's headlines are stolen by the amateurs of Hertha Berlin who, in their turn, reach the Cup final by defeating Second Division Chemnitz 2-1.

HOLLAND: Feyenoord are humiliated 5-0 at home by Ajax in a Cup semi-final. Edgar Davids scores three, Dennis Bergkamp two.

ITALY: Players' union spokesmen says they want to talk with federation president Antonio Matarrese about his austerity package proposals which would control player bonuses and squad sizes . . . another setback for Juventus, eliminated from the Cup after being held 2-2 in their semi-final second leg by neighbours Torino and thus losing 3-2 on aggregate.

1 APRIL
THURSDAY

FRANCE: Toulon players, who had threatened to strike over unpaid wages, call off their action after assurances that monies due will be paid in the next few days. The players had threatened not to play Friday's game against Paris Saint-Germain.

ITALY: The national institute of sports doctors confirms that an unnamed Roma player has failed a dope test . . . Milan centre-forward Marco Van Basten says his damaged ankle is still causing problems and his comeback will be further delayed.

NORWAY: Lyn's international forward, Simon Agdestein, retires prematurely because of knee trouble and is thus free to concentrate on chess, in which he ranks as a grand master.

SOUTH KOREA: Officials say a bid to host the 2002 World Cup will be proposed as a joint venture with North Korea.

SRI LANKA: The Sports Ministry warns the national team, on the eve of a tour to Japan, that any players' failure to return could jeopardise any future international tours.

UNITED STATES: Officials for US '94 announce with delight that the entire first phase of the sale of tickets, to the US "soccer family" is a total 600,000 sell-out. The news makes up for reports that one of the World Cup sponsors, American Airlines, is making 500 pilots, 400 maintenance workers and other employees redundant after reporting a £624million loss in 1992 . . . Pele forecasts that the US could "be the Cameroon of the next World Cup finals." He adds: "The US will certainly not win the World Cup but they could spring some surprises and go much further than many people expect."

2 APRIL
FRIDAY

BRAZIL: The confederation orders referee to clamp down on the latest craze for near-choreographed dancing routines being used by players to celebrate goals.

ENGLAND: Liverpool recall Zimbabwe World Cup goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar from loan to Stoke because of a shoulder injury to Mike Hooper.

FRANCE: The French league says Lennart Johansson's proposals for European Superleague are "insidious and dangerous" and it calls on federation president Fournet-Fayard, a member of the study group set up by UEFA, to oppose them . . . Marseille go top by winning 2-0 away to Saint-Etienne while previous leaders Monaco crash 3-0 in Strasbourg.

GERMANY: Bayern Munich's title dream suffers another blow as they lose a second game in a week, this time by 2-0 to struggling Wattenscheid . . . Hamburg appoint 1983 Champions' Cup match-winner Felix Magath as joint coach to assist Benno Mohlmann from the start of next season.

ITALY: Claudio Caniggia, Argentina forward of Roma, denies newspaper reports that he is the player who has failed a cocaine test. The relevant match is confirmed as Roma's March 21 game against Napoli after which two Roma players were dope-tested — Caniggia and German Thomas Hassler . . . Milan officials, after consultation with the KNVB, confirm suspicions that Marco Van Basten will not be fit in time for Holland's April 28 World Cup visit to London to play England.

SWITZERLAND: FIFA orders an inquiry into crowd incidents in Izmir at the World Cup tie between Turkey and England.

3 APRIL
SATURDAY

ACTION: Benin and Niger draw 2-2 in an African Nations' qualifier . . . Salzburg extend their lead in Austria to two points, winning 2-0 away to Innsbruck while FK Austria are held 0-0 at St Polten . . . Sheffield Wednesday reach the FA Cup Final by defeating neighbours Sheffield United 2-1 after extra time at Wembley . . . Werder Bremen pull level on points with Bayern at the top in Germany thanks to a 1-0 win over Kaiserslautern . . . Romario (above) scores a hat-trick as PSV beat Twente 6-2 . . . Milan drop yet another point, this time held 2-2 at home by Napoli . . . Ramon Heredia's debut as Atletico Madrid coach ends in a 2-1 defeat away to Albacete . . . Young Boys are held 1-1 in Switzerland by Servette but stay top since pursuers Aarau lose 2-1 at Lausanne.

ITALY: Marco Van Basten says he believes he will be fit in time for the Champions' Cup Final on May 26, assuming Milan get there.

WHAT'S ON

MAY

FRIDAY, MAY 7
World Cup qualifiers, Asia Group D: Lebanon v India, Hong Kong v Bahrain. **Group F:** Bangladesh v Sri Lanka, UAE v Japan.

SUNDAY, MAY 9
World Cup qualifiers, CONCACAF final rnd: Canada v Mexico, El Salvador v Honduras. **Asia Group D:** Bahrain v South Korea, Lebanon v Hong Kong.

TUESDAY, MAY 11
World Cup qualifiers, Asia Group D: India v Hong Kong, Lebanon v South Korea.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12
Cup-winners' Cup Final. World Cup qualifiers, Europe Group 1: Estonia v Malta. **Group 6:** Bulgaria v Israel.

THURSDAY, MAY 13
World Cup qualifiers, Europe Group 6: Finland v Austria. **Asia Group D:** Lebanon v Bahrain, India v South Korea.

FRIDAY, MAY 14
World Cup qualifiers, Asia Group E: Malaysia v Kuwait, Saudi Arabia v Macao.

SATURDAY, MAY 15
World Cup qualifiers, Europe Group 3: Latvia v Albania. **Asia Group D:** Hong Kong v South Korea, Bahrain v India.

SUNDAY, MAY 16
World Cup qualifiers, Asia Group E: Saudi Arabia v Malaysia, Kuwait v Macao.

TUESDAY, MAY 18
World Cup qualifiers, Asia Group E: Saudi Arabia v Kuwait, Malaysia v Macao.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19
UEFA Cup Final, 2nd leg. World Cup qualifiers, Europe Group 1: Estonia v Scotland. **Group 2:** San Marino v Poland. **Group 6:** Sweden v Austria.

THURSDAY, MAY 20
World Cup qualifiers, Europe Group 5: Russia v Greece, Luxembourg v Iceland.

SATURDAY, MAY 22
World Cup qualifiers, Europe Group 4: Belgium v Faroe Islands. **Asia, Group A:** Jordan v Yemen, Pakistan v China.

MONDAY, MAY 24
World Cup qualifiers, Asia Group A: Jordan v Iraq, Yemen v Pakistan.

TUESDAY, MAY 25
World Cup qualifier, Europe Group 3: Lithuania v Northern Ireland.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26
Champions' Cup Final. World Cup qualifiers, Europe Group 3: Albania v Rep. of Ireland. **Asia, Group A:** Jordan v China, Yemen v Iraq.

FRIDAY, MAY 28
World Cup qualifiers, Asia Group A: Pakistan v Iraq, Yemen v China.

SATURDAY, MAY 29
World Cup qualifier, Europe Group 2: Poland v England.

SUNDAY, MAY 30
World Cup qualifiers, Oceania play-off 1st leg: New Zealand v Australia. **Asia Group A:** Jordan v Pakistan, Iraq v China.

4 APRIL
SUNDAY

ACTION: El Salvador beat Mexico 2-1 in the opening tie in the final round of the CONCACAF zone World Cup qualifiers . . . Arsenal beat Tottenham 1-0 in the FA Cup semi-finals at Wembley, but have England right-back Lee Dixon dismissed for two bookable offences . . . AEK beat Panathinaikos 3-1 to take a two-point lead over them at the top of the Greek championship . . . Toto Schillaci scores twice as Inter beat Sampdoria 3-1 in Genoa to move to within seven points of leaders Milan . . . Barcelona beat Logrones 3-0 to stay two points clear in Spain of Real Madrid, who beat Zaragoza 4-0.

FRANCE: Bastia beat Nancy 3-0 in a French Second Division game, the first to be staged at the Furiani stadium in Corsica since 15 fans died and 1,500 were injured when a temporary stand collapsed before the start of a Cup semi-final last year.

CONTINUED OVER

5 APRIL MONDAY

DENMARK: National manager Richard Moller Nielsen selects Brondby's Frank Pingel in place of Fleming Povlsen for the World Cup tie against Latvia. Povlsen has been ruled out for the rest of the season by a knee ligament injury.

GERMANY: Berti Vogts drops Thomas Doll from the national squad for the next friendly, against Ghana, and calls up Borussia Monchengladbach's uncapped Karlheinz Pflipsen. Vogts says that too many players rested on their laurels against Scotland: they needed to show pride in the national colours.

ITALY: Milan launch a fans' phone information line.

JAPAN: Gary Lineker helps Grampus Eight beat Shimizu S-Pulse 2-1 in front of 15,000 in a pre-season friendly.

6 APRIL TUESDAY

ACTION: Atletico Madrid go down 2-1 at home to Parma in a Cup-winners' Cup semi-final first leg; in the UEFA Cup, Borussia Dortmund beat Auxerre 2-0 but Juventus defeat Paris Saint-Germain only 2-1.

ENGLAND: The FA decide to launch an official inquiry into allegations emanating from *The Daily Mail* that both Aston Villa and Notts County signed Australian players in deals which flouted rules and regulations concerning the involvement of agents.

GERMANY: A fan who gave the forbidden Hitler salute to security officers during a Second Division match is jailed for nine months by a Berlin court.

ITALY: The Italian federation confirms that Roma's Claudio Caniggia was the player who tested positive in a dope check after the league game against Napoli.

7 APRIL WEDNESDAY

ACTION: Milan secure their place in the Champions' Cup final, defeating IFK Gothenburg 1-0 in Sweden, to be sure of topping Group B of the Champions League with one game remaining. FC Porto defeat PSV Eindhoven 1-0 in the other Group B game. In Group A, Marseille draw 1-1 at home with Rangers, ensuring that the group leadership will rest on the last round of matches . . . in the Cup-winners' Cup, Moscow Spartak win "only" 1-0 at home to Antwerp . . . a full round of second round first leg matches takes place in the Libertadores Cup with victories for Nacional Quito (3-0 v Sporting Cristal), America Cali (2-1 v Bolivar), Olimpia Asuncion (2-1 away v Nacional Montevideo), Universidad Catolica (2-0 v Atletico Nacional of Medellin), Universitario (2-1 v Barcelona), Newell's Old Boys (2-0 v World and South American champions Sao Paulo) and, most spectacularly, Flamengo (8-2 against Minerven of Venezuela).

ITALY: Yet another blow for Roma as both goalkeepers, Giovanni Cervone and Giuseppe Zinetti, are suspended for three Italian Cup matches — and thus ruled out of the two-leg final against Torino — for insulting the referee during the semi-final against Milan.

SPAIN: Diego Maradona is suspended for two games for his provocatory role in the pitched brawl at the league game between Cadiz and Sevilla.

TURKEY: Galatasaray win the Cup after a 2-2 draw against champions Besiktas in the second leg of the final. Galatasaray had won the first leg 1-0.

8 APRIL THURSDAY

ACTION: In the World Cup Asian qualifiers, Japan beat Thailand 1-0, the United Arab Emirates beat Sri Lanka 4-0, North Korea beat Vietnam 3-0 and Qatar defeat Indonesia 3-1.

CAMEROON: The national squad, setting off for an African Nations' Cup qualifier in Niger, complain that the Sports Ministry has sent with them an inadequate witch doctor.

ENGLAND: West Ham decide to name their new stand in memory of Bobby Moore . . . Bruce Grobbelaar defies Liverpool and flies off to join his Zimbabwe World Cup team-mates preparing for the World Cup replay against Egypt as well as for the Nations' Cup.

HUNGARY: Imre (or Emerich) Jenei quits as manager of Hungary in the wake of the 1-0 home defeat by Greece in the World Cup qualifiers.

ITALY: Roma's Argentine forward Claudio Caniggia is suspended pending a definitive verdict after he tested positive for cocaine.

PLAYER of the MONTH

Roberto Baggio . . .

for leading Juventus to the UEFA Cup Final and for his impressive return to form.

9 APRIL FRIDAY

ACTION: Saudi Arabia lose 2-0 at home to the United States in a friendly in Riyadh, the Americans' first win of the year. Captaining the US is Hugo Perez, who plays for the Saudi club Al-Ittihad.

ENGLAND: Mark Raven, the England supporter blinded in one eye by a missile thrown from among Turkish fans last week in Izmir, demands stern FIFA action against the Turkish federation for the inadequacies of the match security.

HUNGARY: Ferenc Puskas, skipper of the Magical Magyars of the 1950s, is appointed caretaker manager of the national team in the wake of the departure of Imre/Emerich Jenei.

ITALY: Roberto Baggio, midweek scorer of both Juventus' goals in the 2-1 UEFA Cup defeat of Paris Saint-Germain, is recalled to national colours for the World Cup qualifier against Estonia.

UNITED STATES: Pele predicts the "best-organised World Cup ever" for next year as he launches a competition for MasterCard which will honour the star player in the qualifying competition for each of the World Cup finalist nations.

10 APRIL SATURDAY

ACTION: Anderlecht win the Belgian championship with six games remaining. They beat Lierse 3-0 to establish an 11-point lead over Standard Liege, who have only five games left . . . in England, Manchester United edge closer to the English league title, hitting back from 1-0 down to beat Sheffield Wednesday 2-1 at Old Trafford, while closest rivals Aston Villa are held goalless by Coventry . . . Bayern Munich reassert themselves in Germany with a 2-0 defeat of Borussia Dortmund while Werder Bremen crash 3-0 to Eintracht Frankfurt . . . the San Siro derby between Milan and pursuers Inter ends 1-1 with Gullit scoring a late equaliser for Milan. Brazil veteran Zico, one of the main attractions of the new Japanese league, is among the crowd . . . in the Italian Second Division, Bari's Brazilian winger Joao Paulo celebrates his return after almost two years' out with leg fractures by scoring a goal in the 3-0 defeat of Andria . . . Barcelona lose 1-0 to Bilbao in Spain.

FRANCE: The record-breaking run of Bordeaux goalkeeper Gaetan Huard is ended after 1,176 minutes by Asanovic of Montpellier — whose shot from a free kick is deflected by the wall.

SPAIN: The federation's appeals committee reduces from two to one match the suspension imposed on Diego Maradona for his role in the Cadiz-Sevilla dust-up . . . the federation confirms rumours that Jesus Pereda, long-time national team managerial aide, will quit at the season's end.

11 APRIL SUNDAY

ACTION: Mexico revive their World Cup hopes with a 3-0 victory over Honduras while Canada defeat El Salvador 2-0. In the Asian qualifiers, North Korea beat Singapre 2-1 and Qatar defeat Vietnam 4-0 . . . in Portugal, Benfica win 3-2 away to Boavista to pull level on points with leaders Porto, who are held goalless at home by Sporting . . . Real Madrid pull level with Barcelona at the top in Spain after winning 3-1 away to Espanol.

BELGIUM: Josip Weber, Croat top-scorer with Antwerp, is reported close to an agreement to switch to Holland at the season's end with Ajax as attacking replacement for Italy-bound Dennis Bergkamp.

ROMANIA: A local newspaper survey proclaims Nicolae Dobrin, midfield star of the 1970s, as the top Romanian footballer of the post-war era.

12 APRIL MONDAY

COLOMBIA: Faustino Asprilla, Parma's Colombian international forward, damages his achilles tendon falling on some broken glass while paying a visit home to his mother in Tulua. He will miss the Cup-winners' Cup semi-final return against Atletico Madrid and possibly the final as well (if Parma qualify).

GERMANY: National boss Berti Vogts says he has protested to Lazio about the axing of Thomas Doll.

ITALY: Arrigo Sacchi names his squad for the World Cup tie against Estonia and, coincidentally, criticises his old Milan president Silvio Berlusconi for suggesting that results mattered to the virtual exclusion of entertainment . . . Brazil beat Italy 3-0 in the final of the Forli under-18 tournament . . . Zico's Kashima Antlers lose 8-1 to Croatia in a J-League warm-up match at

Jurgen Sparwasser scores the winning goal for East Germany against West Germany at the 1974 World Cup in Hamburg.

Udine. Suker scores four, Adzic two, Boban and Jarni one each.

SPAIN: Zaragoza terminate the contract of German veteran defender Andy Brehme after his latest row with coach Victor Fernandez. Reports suggest he may end his career in Japan.

SWITZERLAND: UEFA's official newsletter confirms that semi-finals will be added to the Champions League next season to intensify interest in the group matches.

13 APRIL TUESDAY

ACTION: Asian qualifying continues in the World Cup: North Korea beat Indonesia 4-0, Singapore beat Vietnam 3-2, the UAE beat Thailand 1-0, and Bangladesh beat Sri Lanka 1-0 . . . Poland beat Finland 2-1 in a friendly in Radom . . . European under-21 games include wins for Romania (1-0 home to Cyprus), Russia (6-0 in Luxembourg) and Austria (2-0 v Bulgaria).

ARGENTINA: Buenos Aires newspapers suggest Cesar Menotti may shortly be recalled as coach by Boca Juniors even though the board rejects the resignation of coach Washington Tabarez — who is depressed by political warfare in the boardroom.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA: Milan Macala quits as national manager in the wake of the World Cup draw with Cyprus and is replaced by veteran Vaclav Jezek, likely to be the last national team manager of Czechoslovakia.

GERMANY: Struggling Koln announce that one former star, Bernd Cullmann, will replace another, Karl-Heinz Thielen, as general manager at the season's end. Cullmann, a member of West Germany's 1974 World Cup-winning squad, has been working for sportswear company adidas . . . Borussia Monchengladbach confirm coach Bernd Krauss will be in charge until the end of season 1994-95.

ITALY: National manager Arrigo Sacchi says he would resign if federation president Antonio Matarrese should do so; Matarrese has been linked with a possible candidacy for a position on the IOC.

REP IRELAND: John Aldridge, sidelined for two months by a stomach injury, is included in the squad for the World Cup tie with Denmark in two weeks.

SWITZERLAND: The federation extend the contract of national coach Roy Hodgson to 1996.

TANZANIA: Tanzania withdraw from group five of the African Nations' Cup qualifiers, leaving a three-team group made up of Ghana, Liberia and Burkina Faso.

14 APRIL WEDNESDAY

ACTION: World Cup qualifying in Europe brings victories for Italy (2-0 v Estonia), Lithuania (3-1 v Albania), Denmark (2-0 v Latvia), Romania (2-1 v Cyprus), Russia (4-0 away to Luxembourg) and Austria (3-1 v Bulgaria) . . . Germany thrash Ghana 6-1 in a friendly, after going 1-0 behind . . . in the European under-21s, Denmark lose 4-1 at home to Germany.

CROATIA: Hajduk Split sack Stanko Poklepovic as coach and appoint old stars Katalinski and Buljan in joint command of the team.

FRANCE: Paris Saint-Germain coach Artur Jorge is again linked with the succession to Giovanni Trapattoni at Juventus — PSG's UEFA Cup semi-final rivals.

GERMANY: World Cup "old boys" such as Franz Beckenbauer, Wolfgang Overath, Jurgen Sparwasser and Joachim Streich are invited to recreate the famous 1974 World Cup finals tie in which East Germany beat West Germany 1-0 in Hamburg. The rematch, for charity, is set for June 24 or 25.

ITALY: The federation opens an inquiry into allegations that Pescara, bottom of Serie A, had been involved both last season (in Serie B) and this season in match-fixing.

PORTUGAL: Boavista beat Sporting 1-0 after extra time in a Cup semi-final.

SPAIN: Quarter-final returns in the Spanish Cup bring progress to the semi-finals for Valencia (6-0 thus 8-1 v Villarreal), Real Madrid (1-4; 5-4 v Real Sociedad), Zaragoza (2-1; 3-2 v Oviedo) and Barcelona (3-1; 6-1 v Valladolid).

SWITZERLAND: FIFA's latest working party opens deliberations on whether to extend part-time professionalism worldwide among referees and whether to increase the authority of linesmen

15 APRIL THURSDAY

ACTION: The World Cup replay in Lyon brings delight for Zimbabwe as they hold 1990 finalists Egypt 0-0 and qualify for the final stages of the African qualifying section. In the Asian qualifiers, the UAE beat Bangladesh 1-0 while Japan thrash Sri Lanka 5-0.

ENGLAND: Chris Waddle is controversially but equally predictably omitted from England's World Cup squad to face Holland.

OBITUARY

BOBBY MITCHELL . . . former Newcastle outside-left, dies aged 68. One of Tyneside's legendary figures, and one of three United players, with Jackie Milburn and Bobby Cowell, to appear in their victorious FA Cup teams at Wembley in 1951, 1952 and 1955. Capped only twice by Scotland, because of Billy Liddell's excellence rather than any failings on his part.

SANJEEV DUTTA . . . captain of the Railways team of Calcutta, dies aged 26, after a collision with an opponent in a match against Andra Pradesh at Kannur. He was dead on arrival at Kannur Government Hospital.

ADOLF VOGL . . . outside left with Austria's Wunderteam of the early 1930s, dies aged 82 in Sweden. Vogl made a goal-scoring debut in the historic 5-0 defeat of Scotland in Vienna in 1930.

ROY BAILEY . . . long-serving former Crystal Palace and Ipswich goalkeeper and father of ex-England keeper Gary, in his adopted home of South Africa, aged 60.

ITALY: Aldo Agroppi is, after only two months, placed under notice at Fiorentina. Rumoured favourites to take over are Sven-Goran Eriksson (Sampdoria) and Claudio Ranieri (Napoli) . . . goalkeeper Walter Zenga says he intends to renew his contract with Inter until 1995 . . . Serie B side Ternana are given seven days to present cause against enforced bankruptcy.

SCOTLAND: Manchester United's Brian McClair is recalled for the World Cup qualifier against Portugal.

SPAIN: Diego Maradona says he is considering retiring from football altogether at the season's end.

SWITZERLAND: Former Chiasso player and coach Giuseppe Sogari is named by investigators in connection with a £10million fraud on a local bank.

WALES: National manager Terry Yorath gives a broad hint that Manchester United's Ryan Giggs will start the World Cup qualifier against Czechoslovakia.

16 APRIL FRIDAY

ACTION: The Asian World Cup qualifiers continue with victories for Qatar (4-1 v Singapore) and Vietnam (1-0 v Indonesia). In the African qualifiers, Algeria are held 1-1 at home by Ivory Coast . . . in the European under-21s, Malta lose 4-1 at home to Switzerland.

ITALY: Another injury blow for Milan: Jean-Pierre Papin is ruled out for a month after injuring his right leg in training.

WORLWIDE QUIZ

1. Trevor Francis was the first player to be transferred between English clubs for a £1 million fee. Who was the second?

2. Name the club who play home games in the Arasen Stadium.

3. Which honour did Bob Paisley win in 1939?

4. Name the European club who won their national championship in 1991-92 for the first time in 11 years, but for the 24th time in all.

5. Which English club's telex number is 666564 united g?

6. How many players scored for Scotland when they beat Spain in June 1963?

7. In which country do Old Edwardians, Mighty Blackpool and East End Lions all play?

8. Which Englishman scored against Liverpool in the 1991-92 UEFA Cup?

9. In 1950 Oxford United (then known as Headington) became the first of the current Football League clubs to do . . . what?

10. Colo Colo and Cobreloa are two of the three Chilean clubs to reach the final of the Libertadores Cup. Name the other one.

May answers:

1 ..... None of them played in an FA Cup Final.

2 ..... Newcastle, when beating Newport 13-0 in 1946-47.

3 ..... Jack Charlton, with England and Leeds.

4 ..... Both were coached by Ernst Happel.

5 ..... Jimmy Blair of Cardiff in 1921.

6 ..... Tranmere, in 1984-85.

7 ..... Pat Nevin (one with Chelsea, two with Everton).

8 ..... Pele, for Santos against Benfica in 1962.

9 ..... Gento of Real Madrid.

10 .... East Fife.

WIN

YOU can win the Guinness Record of World Soccer, 870 pages packed with information, and selling at £19.95 — but you have to enter our quiz. Answers on a postcard by June 12.

No all-correct entries to the May quiz, won by D. Fletcher of Homchurch, Essex with eight.

Holders have to struggle

MOROCCAN club Wydad Casablanca began their defence of the African Champions' Cup in unconvincing style.

They stuttered past unfashioanble ASAC Ndiambour of Senegal in the first round, winning 4-3 on aggregate but with more than their fair share of luck.

Ndiambour comprehensively outplayed the North Africans, who include two Russians, in the first leg, and led 2-0 until the final minute, when they conceded an own goal.

That gave Wydad a lifeline for the return match, which they won 3-1 to squeeze through to the second round.

Last year's beaten finalists, El Hilal of Sudan, were not as fortunate, surprisingly beaten 3-0 on aggregate by Sunrise SC from Mauritius, including a rare home defeat.

Sunrise fielded seven internationals and could well continue their winning ways.

Their next opponents are perennial frontrunners Nkana Red Devils, who were beaten finalists in 1990, but have lost several key players to the professional ranks in Tunisia. Devils struggled past AFC Leopards of Kenya 2-1 on aggregate.

The tie of the second round, though, will be the north-south clash between Egyptian giants Zamalek and South African newcomers Kaizer Chiefs.

Zamalek easily saw off Tanzania's Malindi in the first round, while Chiefs recorded a 5-2 away win over Kivoyu Sport of Rwanda before winning the tie 9-3 on aggregate. The South Africans have scored 15 goals in four matches in the tournament and have certainly created a stir on the continent.

Club Africaln of Tunisia, winners in 1991, play their first game against Gabon's AS Sogara, after receiving a first-round walkover when the CAF disqualified Liberia's LPRC Oilers because their country had failed to pay their annual dues.

There has been plenty of on-and-off-the-field incident to keep the CAF competition's organising committee busy, particularly involving clubs from war-torn Zaire.

Champions Union Milambe did not turn up for their tie against Mozambique's Costa do Sol, while in the Cup-winners' Cup there was a mini-war involving Daring Club Motema Pembe and Namibian outsiders Liverpool. Liverpool lost 6-1 in the first leg but claimed they were not given any food in riot-torn Kinshasa and were stranded there for several days.

So in retaliation for the alleged ill-treatment of their players, the Namibian government refused to issue entry visas to the Zaireans for the return a week later, stranding them in transit for a weekend at Johannesburg airport en route.

When the Namibians relented and agreed to issue visas at Windhoek airport, the Zaireans had tired of waiting and had returned home via neighbouring Congo. The outcome of that match is still to be decided.

Nolaw of Wydad (dark shorts) in action against El Hilal in last season's Champions' Cup Final.

On the field, a Zairean referee abandoned another Cup-winners' Cup match, between Prince Louis of Burundi and Kabwe Warriors, when the Zambians launched a dramatic protest after conceding a last-minute penalty.

Kabwe were 3-2 up on aggregate at the time and understandably furious, but they apparently took their heated protests too far and the referee called off the game, ostensibly awarding it to the home team. The decision is likely to be upheld by CAF.

There was also some fine football, with Egypt's Al Ahly, three-time winners of the competition, beating Tanzania's Pamba, and Cameroonian international Joseph Mbarga scoring twice as Olympic Myolye went through at the expnse of RC Kadiogo of Burkina Faso.Douala, and is the best away winning margin in all three of the continent's annual competitions.

Hellenic of Cape Town broke the record for the biggest home win in the CAF Cup with their 6-0 demolition of Malawi's MDC United, and the overall 7-1 aggregate was also a record, matched by Hearts of Oak's success the same weekend over FDA Forester of Liberia.

The surprise 3-1 win for Air Maurianie at ASFAG of Guinea equalled the best away achievement.

MARK **GLEESON**

AFRICAN CHAMPIONS' CUP

First round

	1st	2nd
Malindi v Zamalek (Egy)	0-1	0-4
(Zamalek 5-0 on agg)		
Kiyovu Sport v Kaizer Chiefs	2-5	1-4
(Chiefs 9-3 on agg)		
Sunrise v A. Hilal (Sud)	2-0	1-0
(Sunrise 3-0 on agg)		
AFC Leopards (Ken) v Nkana Red Devils (Zam)	1-1	0-1
(Red Devils 2-1 on agg)		
Nakivubo Villa (Uga) v Vital 'O (Bur)	1-0	
(Villa disqualified)		
AC Sotema walkover v Black Aces (Zim)		withdrew
Costa do Sol v Union Milambe (Zai)		postponed
Djoliba v ASEC Abidjan (IC)	1-1	0-2
(ASEC 3-1 on agg)		
KAC Marrakesh (Mor) v Horoya (Gui)	5-0	0-1
(KAC 5-1 on agg)		
Sahel Fi ante v Mou udia d Oran (Alg)	1-0	0-2
(Mouloudia 2-1 on agg)		
Primiero Agosto v Racing Bafoussam (Cam)	2-2	0-2
(Racing 4-2 on agg)		
LPRC Oilers disq v Club Africain (Tun)		walkover
AS Sogara (Gab) v Eto le du Congo (Con)	2-0	0-3
(Sogara 2-0 on agg)		
TP USCA v Stationary Stores (Nig)	1-3	2-2
(Stores 5-3 on agg)		
ASC Ndiamdour v Wydad (Mor, holders)	2-1	1-3
(Wydad 4-3 on agg)		

Second round
(May 14-16 & 28-30)
Kaizer Chiefs v Zamalek
Nkana Red Devils v Sunrise SC
AC Sotema v Vital 'O
ASEC Abidjan v Costa do Sol/Union Milambe
Sahel SC/Asante Kotoko v KAC Marrakesh
Racing Bafoussam v Mouloudia d'Oran
AS Sogara v Club Africain
Wydad Casablanca v Stationary Stores

AFRICAN CUP-WINNERS' CUP

Preliminary round

	1st	2nd
Liverpool (Nam) v GF Tatic (Bot)	1-1	1-0
(Liverpool 2-1 on agg)		
Jomo Cosmos (SA) v Denver Sundowns (Swa)	1-0	6-0
(Cosmos 7-0 on agg)		
Silver Strikers (Mal) v Arsenal (Les)	0-2	1-2
(Arsenal 4-1 on agg)		
Pamba (Tan) v Mukura Victory (Rwa)	0-1	2-1
(2-2 on agg, Pamba on away goals)		
Tempete Mocaf (CAR) v Petro Atletico (Ang)	1-2	1-1
(Petro 3-2 on agg)		
ASC SNIM (Mauritania) w/o v Benfica (GB)		withdrew
Semassi Sokode (Togo) w/o v Diamond Stars (SL)		withdrew
Gazelle (Chad) v El Nguema (EG)	1-0	0-2
(Ela Nguema 2-1 on agg)		
Hafia (Gui) v Stade Malien (Mali)	2-0	0-1
(Hafia 2-1 on agg)		

First round

Daring Club Motema Pembe (Zai) v Liverpool	6-1	ppd
CARA Brazzaville (Con) v Petro Atletico	1-0	1-3
(Atletico 3-2 on agg)		
Kabwe Warriors (Zam) v Prince Louis (Bur)	2-1	11-1
(match abandoned, decision still to be made by CAF)*		
COSFAP (Mad) v Jomo Cosmos	0-2	2-5
(Cosmos 5-2 on agg)		
Clube de Gaza (Moz) v Arsenal	2-2	1-1
(3-3 on agg, Arsenal on away goals)		
Al Ahly (Egy) v Pamba	5-0	0-0
(Al Ahly 5-0 on agg)		
Wanka (Zim) v Kenya Breweries (Ken)	0-2	1-1
(Breweries 3-1 on agg)		
E. Merreikh (Sud) v Express FC (Uga)	3-0	0-2
(E. Merreikh 3-2 on agg)		
JS Kabylie (Alg) v ASC SNIM	8-1	3-1
(JSK 11-2 on agg)		
Dragons Oueme (Ben) v Olympic (Niger)	4-0	2-2
(Dragons 6-2 on agg)		
Stade Tunisier (Tun) v Hafia	1-0	0-0
(Stade 1-0 on agg)		
Noraclec (Ghai) v US Goreenne (Sen)	0-0	0-1
(Goreenne 1-0 on agg)		
Africa Sports (IC holders) w/o v NPA Anchors (Lib)		disq
Delta (Gab) v Semassi Sokode	1-0	0-2
(Semassi 2-1 on agg)		
El Kanemi Warriors (Nig) v El Nguema	4-0	0-0
(Warriors 4-0 on agg)		
Olympic Mvolye (Cam) v RC Kadiogo (BF)	1-0	1-1
(Olympic 2-1 on agg)		

Second round *(May 14-16 & 28-30)*
DC Motema Pembe/Liverpool v Petro Atletico
Kabwe Warriors/Prince Louis v Jomo Cosmos
Arsenal v Al Ahly
Kenya Breweries v El Merreikh
JS Kabylie v Dragons Oueme
Stade Tunisier v US Goreenne
Africa Sports v Semassi Sokode
El Kanemi Warriors v Olympic Mvolye

CAF CUP

Preliminary round

	1st	2nd
Insurance (Eth) v Rayon Sports (Rwa)	2-1	1-1
(Insurance 3-2 on agg)		
Dep. Travadores (CVI) v ASC Air Mauritanie	0-0	0-0
(0-0 on agg, Air Mauritanie 6-5 on pens)		
Entente Deux (Togo) w/o v UDIB (GB)		disc
Tourbillon (Chad) v Les Anges de Fatima (CAR)	1-1	3-2
(Tourbillon 4-3 on agg)		
Linare (Les) v Young Ones (Nam)	1-1	2-2
(Young Ones 3-5 on agg)		
ASC Air Mauritanie v ASFAG (Gui)	0-1	3-1
(Air Mauritanie 3-2 on agg)		
Zumunta (Niger) v ASFA Yennega (BF)	1-1	2-0
(Zumunta 3-1 on agg)		
Tourbillon v Canon Yaounde (Cam)	0-0	0-3
(Canon Yaounde 3-0 on agg)		
FC Sobel (Zai) v Atletico Sport Aviacao (Ang)	0-0	0-2
(ASA 2-0 on agg)		
Stella Abidjan (IC) w/o v Kamboui Eagles (SL)		withdrew
Shooting Stars (Nig) v Sigui de Kayes (Mali)	2-1	0-1
(Sigui de Kayes won on away goals)		
Petrosport (Con) v Renaissance Atlantique (Ben)	3-0	0-1
(Petrosport 3-1 on agg)		
Entente Deux v Mbilinga (Gab)	0-3	2-2
(Mbilinga 5-2 on agg)		

First round

Insurance v Merreikh El Obayed (Sud)	0-0	1-1
(Insurance win on away goals)		
Young Ones w/o v Profund Warriors (Zam)		withdrew
Manzini Wand. (Swa) w/o v CAPS Utd (Zim)		withdrew
Simoa (Tan) v Ferroviario de Maputo (Moz)	0-0	1-1
(Simba win on away goals)		
Coffee SC (Uga) v Gor Mahia (Ken)	0-1	1-0
(Gor Mahia won 5-4 on pens)		
MDC Utd (Mal) v Hellenic (SA)	1-1	0-6
(Hellenic 7-1 on agg)		
Jeanne d'Arc (Sen) v USM Harrach (Alg)	0-0	1-6
(El Harrach 6-1 on agg)		
FDA Forester (Lib) v Hearts of Oak (Ghai)	0-2	1-5
(Hearts of Oak 7-1 on agg)		

Second round
(May 21-23, June 4-6)
Young Ones v Insurance
Simba v Manzini Wanderers
Hellenic v Gor Mahia
Hearts of Oak v USM Harrach
Zumunta v ASC Air Mauritanie
Atletico Sport Aviacao v Canon Yaounde
Sigui de Kayes v Stella Abidjan
Mbilinga v Petrosport

Ivo's a leading import

A SCORELESS home draw with Mauritius highlighted South Africa's inability to score goals and all but ended their hopes of reaching the African Nations' Cup finals in Tunisia.

The record scoring exploits of Kaizer Chiefs, Jomo Cosmos and Hellenic in the early rounds of the African Club competitions will now come under focus. Chiefs, in particular, face tough opposition from Zamalek of Egypt.

Highlands Park have become the second NSL club to change ownership and location this season. This Johannesburg club are now based in Welkom, Orange Free State.

Even the sale of international John Moseou to Kaizer Chiefs for around £60,000 could not save Highlands.

Ratanang Mahlosians of QwaQwa were bought by the owners of relegated Manning Rangers of Durban. Ratanang now play in Durban as Rangers, in all but name.

Many leading clubs are now taking advantage of the NSL ruling allowing them to register up to five foreign players. In comparison with most African countries South Africa is financially very attractive and players from West and Central Africa are joining others from the Southern states.

And apart from the obvious UK source, South American players from Argentina, Brazil and Peru also have been signed.

One of the most significant imports is a Bosnian, Ivo Simunic, goalkeeper with the most successful team this season, Orlando Pirates. BARRY **BAKER**

Capacity: 60,000 Attendance: 12

Giant problems as Chinese aim to expand

EFFORTS to establish soccer as a going concern in China are still being frustrated at virtually every turn.

A country with over 1,000 million people still fails to project the game sufficiently for it to take a grip on the mass consciousness, and progress is achingly slow.

China joined the Asian Football Confederation only as recently as 1974, becoming a FIFA member five years later, and still has had minimal influence on the Asian scene.

As the game in Japan grows apace, as the Arabian countries cash in on their vast receipts from petrol money, as the word spreads in Africa and as soccer still survives in war-torn zones, the situation in China produces disappointment after disappointment.

Even the latest effort, a first professional championship, ended with a pile of bills after two months of effort.

The problems of staging such an event in such a huge country meant that all the matches had to be played in one province, to save on travel costs and to maximise support. Guandong was the province chosen, because this is the one area of China where the game seemed to have taken hold.

But a contest involving eight clubs and 40 matches in six cities led to row upon row of empty seats.

Ironically many of the attendances did not match those of the Women's World Cup staged in the same part of the country in 1991.

The players did their best, but the tournament was a financial disaster. Each club had to pay their own expenses, without the previous subsidies from the CFA, and more than half of what gate receipts there were did not reach the contestants.

Clubs in China do not own their grounds, which are the property of outside agencies who use the arenas for other sports as well as soccer. The tournament's rules stipulated that 40 per cent of the receipts went to stadium owners, 20 to the CFA, and 40 to the clubs.

Payment to players came out of the income derived by the clubs, but many matches were so poorly attended that they were run at a loss.

Incredible though it may seem, only 12 of the 60,000 tickets were sold for the game between Liaoning — who had won the national title four times in a row up to 1991 — and Shanghai. Eight of those 12 were bought by Yang Yuming (above), the Liaoning coach, and his players earned 1.5 yuan (about 18 English pence) for their efforts.

The highest gate for any match was about 5,000, when Guangzhou entertained Dalian, who won despite having three men sent off.

Guangzhou, winners of 32 successive home games, were held 1-1 after 90 minutes, and under the tournament rules the game was decided on penalties, with Dalian winning 4-3.

Sports Minister Wu Shaozu and national squad coach Klaus Schlappner were among those present.

As the tournament progressed, the financial burden grew heavier. Each club faced an average expenditure of $182 per day, but their income worked out at around £48.

Champions . . . Liaoning (left) won the title but were badly paid for their efforts, earning just 18 pence from their game against Shanghai.

Shanghai's players had to give up eating in their hotel and went to a local cafe, and Dalian conceded their last match, once they were out of the running, returning home to save cash.

The stadium owners lost money, too. Ke Zhensheng, manager of Tianhe Stadium which is Liaoning's home said: "We have to spend at least 40,000 yuan (£4,800) to stage a match, but the income has been around one per cent of that figure. We simply can't bear this sort of loss."

Ke asked the CFA for a subsidy, was turned down, and promptly rented out the stadium for a commercial business exhibition. As a result, Liaoning had to play their last two games elsewhere.

The CFA's competitions director, Li Chuangqi, pointed out that stadiums had lost money through their failure to sell advertisement space around their pitches, and that was their own fault.

Supporters did not take to the tournament as they had done to the World Cup for women because there was not the same novelty value.

In China, no teams are independent: all are offshoots of various local government authorities — in other words, state owned.

Footballers cannot live from the game alone, but must exist on salaries and subsidies fixed by those authorities.

The fact that big money cannot be made inevitably leads to a low standard of competition, because there is little incentive beyond pride.

Although three of the eight competing clubs are based in Guandong, the five others attracted little interest, and the Spring Festival, a 15-day holiday for many people, also had a bad effect on the gates.

In addition, staging the competition in the "hotbed" of soccer interest in the country had another, negative effect.

Guandong is the only part of China that receives TV transmissions of soccer from Italy, England and Germany. Not surprisingly, people watching soccer from such countries were reluctant to attend matches of a far lower standard.

Fortunately there are signs that some good will come out of the fiasco of the first pro tournament. The CFA have now decided to establish genuinely professional clubs, and big business has realised the benefits of helping the national team.

Santana, a joint Chinese-Germany motor company, led the way by establishing a Chinese Football Fund and inside a month had raised around £1.25 million to help coach Schlappner and his men to qualify for US '94 and to pay Schlappner's salary.

There is a long, long road ahead, but at last Chinese football seems to be taking steps in the right direction.

ZHENG **MING**

Liaoning on top — just

THE first Professional Club Championship in China was contested on a league basis. There were two groups of four teams, each playing the others twice, with the top two in each group going through to form the final pool, in which the clubs played each other once only.

The losers from the two initial groups also played off to decide the 4th to 8th places.

Three of the clubs — Guangzhou, Guangdong and Foshan — are based in the host province, Guandong. They were joined by Liaoning, Dalian, Beijing, Shanghai and August First.

Unfortunately the organisers had decided that there were to be no drawn matches, those all square after 90 minutes being decided on penalties. The 40 matches included 13 settled by penalties, with Dalian being particularly unfortunate.

They qualified for the final but then lost all their three games on shots from the spot, by 7-6 twice and 4-3.

Liaoning eventually won the title on goal difference from Guangdong — they also had finished first and second in their group — with Beijing third and Dalian fourth. The other final group also was decided on goal difference, with August First winning from Foshan. Shanghai were third and Guangzhou fourth.

Kuwait

Three top with five

AL SALMIYA led halfway through the eight-club Kuwait League programme and provided the three top scorers . . . with five goals each.

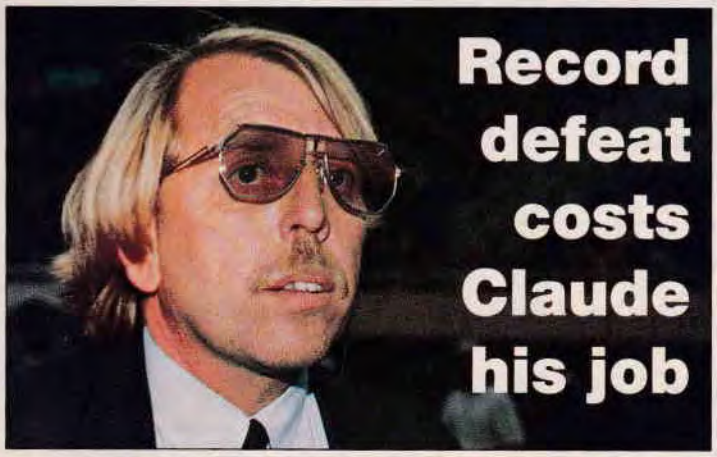
Bassel Abdulnani, Badr Bati and Ali Mawi had scored all but one of Al Salmiya's 16 goals.

The club are coached by a Brazilian, Gelido, who took them to the championship 12 years ago and now looks likely to achieve a repeat performance, after four wins and three draws.

Cup-holders Al Arabi were second, two points behind, but the reigning champions Al Qadsia, were sixth, though with two matches in hand.

● The United Arab Emirates, aiming to reach the World Cup finals for a second successive time, had their chances diminished when leading forward Zuhair Bahkit Bilal was suspended until January 1994.

Bilal, who plays for Al Wasl, was round guilty of assaulting a linesman during a match. The club were fined $1,000 for misconduct by officials.



Record defeat costs Claude his job

THE big surprise of the eighth Arab Club Champions' Cup happened in the early stages, when Al Faisali of Amman beat Al Shabab of Dubai 7-2.

This defeat, the club's worst in their 22-year history, meant dismissal for their French coach, Claude Le Roy (above), formerly with Cameroon and Senegal.

Riyadh's "third club" Al Shabab confirmed their status as Arabia's foremost team by winning the event.

The Saudi side are now the envy of their city's two better-known outfits, Al Hilal and Al Nasr.

In three months they have reached three major finals, losing 1-0 to Baas of Iran in the Asian Club Championship, beating their namesakes Al Shabab of Dubai 1-0 in the Gulf Co-operation Council event, and now defeating Al Arabi of Doha 2-0 to take the Champions' Cup.

The teams drew 0-0 in the qualifying stage, but finished first and second to go through to the semi-finals, where they defeated Al Ismaili of Egypt and Al Faisali.

The final went to extra time, marred by considerable violence, with Saudi forward Said Al Oweiran and Doha sweeper Salem Al Adasani being sent off.

Eventually Fahd Al Kaltham opened the scoring, and Fahd Al Mhallal — voted player of the tournament — soon added a second to clinch victory for Al Shabab.

MOHAMED **CHBARO**

Koreans plan for World Cup

SOUTH KOREA, the 1988 Olympic host nation, will bid to stage the World Cup in 2002 jointly with rival North Korea.

Culture and Sports Minister Lee Min-sup reported the plan to President Kim Young-sam, and officials are seeking talks with North Korea on the idea.

"If we jointly host the event it will greatly contribute to easing inter-Korean tension," said Kum Jung-nam, managing director of the Korea Football Association.

"We need full government support to create a favourable atmosphere," he added.

The two Koreas opened sports exchanges across the heavily-armed border in 1991, and fielded their first united team in world table tennis and youth soccer championships. But the Communist North later cut off such exchanges, for political reasons.

Another idea is for South Korea to stage the World Cup alone if the neighbour state will not co-operate.

Kim said there would be no difficulty in building soccer grounds.

"Other nations like Japan are going ahead with plans to host the World Cup, but we are not worried because a three-year period will be enough for preparations."

South Korea also made a bid to stage the 1996 Asian Cup, with the decision due on April 29.

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10th ..... Nottingham (Theatre Royal)
13th ..... Southport (Southport Theatre)
14th ..... Cardiff (St.David's Hall)
16th ..... Great Yarmouth (Wellington Pier)
17th ..... London (Palladium)
18th ..... Stoke (Theatre Royal)
19th ..... Wolverhampton (Civic Hall)
20th ..... Bristol (Colston Hall)
24th ..... Luton (Caaser's Palace)
25th ..... Bournemouth (Pavillion Theatre)
26th ..... Torquay (Princess Theatre)
29th ..... Hayes (Beck Theatre)
31st ..... Cheltenham (Town Hall)

November
7th ..... Hayes (Beck Theatre)
8th ..... Derby (Assembly Room)
9th ..... Barnsley (Civic Hall)
10th ..... Stockport (Davenport Theatre)
11th ..... Scarborough (Futurist Theatre)
12th ..... Middlesbrough (Town Hall)
13th ..... Carlisle (Sands Centre)

* Tickets priced £8.50 – £10. More information and ticket order form by sending a stamped addressed envelope to MBN ENTERTAINMENTS LTD., 2 BUILDER HOUSE, MAYORS ROAD, ALTRINCHAM, CHESHIRE. WA15 9RP.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

My team selection is	1
2	3
4	5
6	7
8	9
10	11
12	13

VENUE _____

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1994 WORLD CUP QUALIFYING GROUPS

EUROPE

38 entries (39 members, Liechtenstein withdrew)

● *Top two teams in each Group qualify for finals (Germany qualify as holders).*

GROUP 1

16.09.92 Estonia v Switzerland 0-6
09.09.92 Switzerland v Scotland 3-1
14.10.92 Italy v Switzerland 2-2
14.10.92 Scotland v Portugal 0-0
25.10.92 Malta v Estonia 0-0
18.11.92 Scotland v Italy 0-0
18.11.92 Switzerland v Malta 3-0
19.12.92 Malta v Italy 1-2
24.01.93 Malta v Portugal 0-1
17.02.93 Scotland v Malta 3-0
24.02.93 Portugal v Italy 1-3
24.03.93 Italy v Malta 6-1
31.03.93 Switzerland v Portugal 1-1
14.04.93 Italy v Estonia 2-0
17.04.93 Malta v Switzerland 0-2
28.04.93 Portugal v Scotland 5-0
01.05.93 Switzerland v Italy
12.05.93 Estonia v Malta
19.05.93 Estonia v Scotland
02.06.93 Scotland v Estonia
19.06.93 Portugal v Malta
05.09.93 Estonia v Portugal
08.09.93 Scotland v Switzerland
22.09.93 Estonia v Italy
13.10.93 Portugal v Switzerland
13.10.93 Italy v Scotland
10.11.93 Portugal v Estonia
17.11.93 Italy v Portugal
17.11.93 Malta v Scotland
17.11.93 Switzerland v Estonia

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Switzerland	6	4	2	0	17	4	10
Italy	6	4	2	0	15	6	10
Portugal	5	2	2	1	8	4	6
Scotland	5	1	2	2	4	8	4
Estonia	3	0	1	2	0	8	1
Malta	7	0	1	6	2	17	1

GROUP 2

09.09.92 Norway v San Marino 10-0
23.09.92 Norway v Holland 2-1
23.09.92 Poland v Turkey 1-0
07.10.92 San Marino v Norway 0-2
14.10.92 England v Norway 1-1
14.10.92 Holland v Poland 2-2
28.10.92 Turkey v San Marino 4-1
18.11.92 England v Turkey 4-0
16.12.92 Turkey v Holland 1-3
17.02.93 England v San Marino 6-0
24.02.93 Holland v Turkey 3-1
10.03.93 San Marino v Turkey 0-0
24.03.93 Holland v San Marino 6-0
31.03.93 Turkey v England 0-2
28.04.93 England v Holland 2-2
28.04.93 Norway v Turkey 3-1
28.04.93 Poland v San Marino 1-0
19.05.93 San Marino v Poland
29.05.93 Poland v England
02.06.93 Norway v England
09.06.93 Holland v Norway
08.09.93 England v Poland
22.09.93 Norway v Poland
22.09.93 San Marino v Holland
13.10.93 Holland v England
13.10.93 Poland v Norway
27.10.93 Turkey v Poland
10.11.93 Turkey v Norway
16.11.93 San Marino v England
17.11.93 Poland v Holland

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Norway	5	4	1	0	18	3	9
England	5	3	2	0	15	3	8
Holland	6	3	2	1	17	8	8
Poland	3	2	1	0	4	2	5
Turkey	8	1	1	6	7	17	3
San Marino	7	0	1	6	1	29	1

GROUP 3

22.04.92 Spain v Albania 3-0
28.04.92 Northern Ireland v Lithuania 2-2
26.05.92 Rep. of Ireland v Albania 2-0
03.06.92 Albania v Lithuania 1-0
12.08.92 Latvia v Lithuania 1-2
26.08.92 Latvia v Denmark 0-0
09.09.92 Rep. of Ireland v Latvia 4-0
09.09.92 Northern Ireland v Albania 3-0
23.09.92 Latvia v Spain 0-0
23.09.92 Lithuania v Denmark 0-0
14.10.92 Denmark v Rep. of Ireland 0-0
14.10.92 Northern Ireland v Spain 0-0
28.10.92 Lithuania v Latvia 1-1
11.11.92 Albania v Latvia 1-1
18.11.92 Northern Ireland v Denmark 0-1
18.11.92 Spain v Rep. of Ireland 0-0
16.12.92 Spain v Latvia 5-0
17.02.93 Albania v Northern Ireland 1-2
24.02.93 Spain v Lithuania 5-0
31.03.93 Denmark v Spain 1-0
31.03.93 Rep. of Ireland v Northern Ireland 3-0
14.04.93 Denmark v Latvia 2-0
14.04.93 Lithuania v Albania 3-1
28.04.93 Rep. of Ireland v Denmark 1-1
28.04.93 Spain v Northern Ireland 3-1
15.05.93 Latvia v Albania
25.05.93 Lithuania v Northern Ireland
26.05.93 Albania v Rep. of Ireland
02.06.93 Denmark v Albania
02.06.93 Latvia v Northern Ireland
02.06.93 Lithuania v Spain
09.06.93 Latvia v Rep. of Ireland
16.06.93 Lithuania v Rep. of Ireland
25.08.93 Denmark v Lithuania
08.09.93 Albania v Denmark
08.09.93 Rep. of Ireland v Lithuania
08.09.93 Northern Ireland v Latvia
22.09.93 Albania v Spain
13.10.93 Denmark v Northern Ireland
13.10.93 Rep. of Ireland v Spain
17.11.93 N. Ireland v Rep. of Ireland
17.11.93 Spain v Denmark

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spain	8	4	3	1	16	2	11
Denmark	7	3	4	0	5	1	10
Rep. of Ireland	6	3	3	0	9	1	9
Lithuania	7	2	3	2	8	11	7
N. Ireland	7	2	2	3	8	9	6
Latvia	8	0	4	4	3	15	4
Albania	7	1	1	5	4	14	3

GROUP 4

22.04.92 Belgium v Cyprus 1-0
06.05.92 Romania v Faroe Islands 7-0
20.05.92 Romania v Wales 5-1
03.06.92 Faroe Islands v Belgium 0-3
18.06.92 Faroe Islands v Cyprus 0-2
02.09.92 Czechoslovakia v Belgium 1-2
09.09.92 Wales v Faroe Islands 6-0
23.09.92 Czechoslovakia v Faroe Islands 4-0
14.10.92 Belgium v Romania 1-0
14.10.92 Cyprus v Wales 0-1
14.11.92 Romania v Czechoslovakia 1-1
18.11.92 Belgium v Wales 2-0
29.11.92 Cyprus v Romania 1-4
13.12.93 Cyprus v Belgium 0-3
24.03.93 Cyprus v Czechoslovakia 1-1
31.03.93 Wales v Belgium 2-0
14.04.93 Romania v Cyprus 2-1
25.04.93 Cyprus v Faroe Islands 3-1
28.04.93 Czechoslovakia v Wales 1-1
22.05.93 Belgium v Faroe Islands
02.06.93 Czechoslovakia v Romania
06.06.93 Faroe Islands v Wales
16.06.93 Faroe Islands v Czechoslovakia
08.09.93 Wales v Czechoslovakia
08.09.93 Faroe Islands v Romania
13.10.93 Romania v Belgium
13.10.93 Wales v Cyprus
27.10.93 Czechoslovakia v Cyprus
17.11.93 Wales v Romania
17.11.93 Belgium v Czechoslovakia

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Belgium	7	6	0	1	12	3	12
Romania	6	4	1	1	19	5	9
Wales	6	3	1	2	11	8	7
Czechoslovakia	5	1	3	1	8	5	5
Cyprus	8	2	1	5	8	13	5
Faroe Islands	6	0	0	6	1	25	0

GROUP 5

13.05.92 Greece v Iceland 1-0
03.06.92 Hungary v Iceland 1-2
09.09.92 Luxembourg v Hungary 0-3
07.10.92 Iceland v Greece 0-1
14.10.92 Russia v Iceland 1-0
28.10.92 Russia v Luxembourg 2-0
11.11.92 Greece v Hungary 0-0
17.02.93 Greece v Luxembourg 2-0
31.03.93 Hungary v Greece 3-1
14.04.93 Luxembourg v Russia 0-4
28.04.93 Russia v Hungary 3-0
20.05.93 Russia v Greece
20.05.93 Luxembourg v Iceland
02.06.93 Iceland v Russia
16.06.93 Iceland v Hungary
08.09.93 Hungary v Russia
08.09.93 Iceland v Luxembourg
12.10.93 Luxembourg v Greece
27.10.93 Hungary v Luxembourg
17.11.93 Greece v Russia

★ *Yugoslavia excluded due to UN sanctions.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Greece	5	4	1	0	5	0	9
Russia	4	4	0	0	10	0	8
Hungary	5	1	1	3	4	6	3
Iceland	4	1	0	3	2	4	2
Luxembourg	4	0	0	4	0	11	0

GROUP 6

14.05.92 Finland v Bulgaria 0-3
09.09.92 Bulgaria v France 2-0
09.09.92 Finland v Sweden 0-1
07.10.92 Sweden v Bulgaria 2-0
14.10.92 France v Austria 2-0
28.10.92 Austria v Israel 5-2
11.11.92 Israel v Sweden 1-3
14.11.92 France v Finland 2-1
02.12.92 Israel v Bulgaria 0-2
17.02.93 Israel v France 0-2
27.03.93 Austria v France 0-1
14.04.93 Austria v Bulgaria 3-1
28.04.93 France v Sweden 2-1
28.04.93 Bulgaria v Finland 2-0
12.05.93 Bulgaria v Israel
13.05.93 Finland v Austria
19.05.93 Sweden v Austria
02.06.93 Sweden v Israel
16.06.93 Finland v Israel
22.08.93 Sweden v France
25.08.93 Austria v Finland
08.09.93 Finland v France
08.09.93 Bulgaria v Sweden
13.10.93 France v Israel
13.10.93 Bulgaria v Austria
13.10.93 Sweden v Finland
27.20.93 Israel v Austria
10.11.93 Austria v Sweden
10.11.93 Israel v Finland
17.11.93 France v Bulgaria

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	6	5	0	1	11	4	10
Bulgaria	6	4	0	2	10	5	8
Sweden	4	3	0	1	7	3	6
Austria	4	2	0	2	8	6	4
Finland	4	0	0	4	1	8	0
Israel	4	0	0	4	3	14	0

Austrian striker Toni Polster is tackled by a Bulgarian defender.

AFRICA

37 entries (48 members)

● *Group winners qualify for Second Round of 3 mini leagues of 3 teams each. Winners qualify for finals.*

First Round

GROUP A

09.10.92 Algeria v Burundi 3-1
25.10.92 Burundi v Ghana 1-0
20.12.92 Ghana v Algeria 2-0
17.01.93 Burundi v Algeria 0-0
31.01.93 Ghana v Burundi 1-0
26.02.93 Algeria v Ghana 2-1

★ *Uganda withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
ALGERIA	4	2	1	1	5	4	5
Ghana	4	2	0	2	4	3	4
Burundi	4	1	1	2	2	4	3

GROUP B

18.10.92 Cameroon v Swaziland 5-0
25.10.92 Swaziland v Zaire 1-0
10.01.93 Zaire v Cameroon 1-2
17.01.93 Swaziland v Cameroon 0-0
29.02.93 Cameroon v Zaire 0-0

★ *Liberia withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
CAMEROON	4	2	2	0	7	1	6
Swaziland	3	1	1	1	1	5	3
Zaire	3	0	1	2	1	3	1

Not played: *Zaire v Swaziland*

GROUP C

11.10.92 Egypt v Angola 1-0
11.10.92 Zimbabwe v Togo 1-0
25.10.92 Togo v Egypt 1-4
20.12.92 Zimbabwe v Egypt 2-1
10.01.93 Angola v Zimbabwe 1-1
17.01.93 Togo v Zimbabwe 1-2
18.01.93 Angola v Egypt 0-0
31.01.93 Egypt v Togo 3-0
31.01.93 Zimbabwe v Angola 2-1
28.02.93 Egypt v Zimbabwe 2-1

Holland defender John De Wolf clears from England striker Les Ferdinand.

Zimbabwe's Peter Ndlovu (left) chases Egypt's Hesham Yaken during the 0-0 draw in Lyons.

Result declared void after protest
[illegible] Togo v Angola 0-1
Replay *(in Lyons)*
14.04.93 Egypt v Zimbabwe 0-0
★ *Sierra Leone withdrew, Togo replaced them.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
ZIMBABWE	6	4	2	0	8	4	10
Egypt	6	3	2	1	9	3	8
Angola	5	1	2	2	3	4	4
Togo	5	0	0	5	2	11	0

Not played: *Angola v Togo*

GROUP D

10.10.92 Nigeria v South Africa 4-0
25.10.92 South Africa v Congo 1-0
20.12.92 Congo v Nigeria 0-1
17.01.93 South Africa v Nigeria 0-0
31.01.93 Congo v South Africa 0-1
27.02.93 Nigeria v Congo 2-0
★ *Sao Tome e Principe withdrew, Libya withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
NIGERIA	4	3	1	0	7	0	7
South Africa	4	2	1	1	2	4	5
Congo	4	0	0	4	0	5	0

GROUP E

10.10.92 Ivory Coast v Botswana 6-0
25.10.92 Niger v Ivory Coast 0-0
20.12.92 Botswana v Niger 0-1
17.01.93 Botswana v Ivory Coast 0-0
31.01.93 Ivory Coast v Niger 1-0
28.02.93 Niger v Botswana 2-1
★ *Sudan withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
IVORY COAST	4	2	2	0	7	0	6
Niger	4	2	1	1	3	2	5
Botswana	4	0	1	3	1	9	1

GROUP F

11.10.92 Morocco v Ethiopia 5-0
11.10.92 Tunisia v Benin 5-1
25.10.92 Ethiopia v Tunisia 0-0
25.10.92 Benin v Morocco 0-1
20.12.92 Tunisia v Morocco 1-1
20.12.92 Ethiopia v Benin 3-1
17.01.93 Ethiopia v Morocco 0-1
17.01.93 Benin v Tunisia 0-5
31.01.93 Tunisia v Ethiopia 3-0
31.01.93 Morocco v Benin 1-0
28.02.93 Benin v Ethiopia 1-0
28.02.93 Morocco v Tunisia 0-0
★ *Malawi withdrew, Benin replaced them.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
MOROCCO	6	4	2	0	13	1	10
Tunisia	6	3	3	0	14	2	9
Ethiopia	6	1	1	4	3	11	3
Benin	6	1	0	5	3	19	2

GROUP G

11.10.92 Gabon v Mozambique 3-1
25.10.92 Mozambique v Senegal 3-1
19.12.92 Gabon v Senegal 3-2
17.02.93 Mozambique v Gabon 1-1
30.01.93 Senegal v Mozambique 5-1
27.02.93 Senegal v Gabon 1-0
★ *Mauritania withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
SENEGAL	4	3	0	1	10	4	6
Gabon	4	2	1	1	7	5	5
Mozambique	4	0	1	3	3	11	1

GROUP H

11.01.93 Madagascar v Namibia 3-0
25.10.92 Namibia v Zambia 0-4
20.12.92 Madagascar v Zambia 2-0
17.01.93 Namibia v Madagascar 0-1
30.01.93 Zambia v Namibia 4-0
27.02.93 Zambia v Madagascar 3-1
★ *Burkina Faso withdrew and were replaced by Namibia. Tanzania also withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
ZAMBIA	4	3	0	1	11	3	6
Madagascar	4	3	0	1	7	3	6
Namibia	4	0	0	4	0	12	0

GROUP I

20.12.92 Guinea v Kenya 4-0
27.02.93 Kenya v Guinea 2-0
★ *Gambia & Mali withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
GUINEA	2	1	0	1	4	2	2
Kenya	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

Second Round

GROUP A

16.04.93 Algeria v Ivory Coast 1-1
02.05.93 Ivory Coast v Nigeria
03.07.93 Nigeria v Algeria
18.07.93 Ivory Coast v Algeria
25.09.93 Nigeria v Ivory Coast
08.10.93 Algeria v Nigeria

GROUP B

18.04.93 Morocco v Senegal 1-0
02.05.93 Senegal v Zambia
04.07.93 Zambia v Morocco
17.07.93 Senegal v Morocco
26.09.93 Zambia v Senegal
10.10.93 Morocco v Zambia

GROUP C

18.04.93 Cameroon v Guinea 3-1
02.05.93 Guinea v Zimbabwe
04.07.93 Zimbabwe v Cameroon
18.07.93 Guinea v Cameroon
26.09.93 Zimbabwe v Guinea
10.10.93 Cameroon v Zimbabwe

CONCACAF

23 entries (27 members, Cuba withdrew)
● *Winners of Group A play (home & away) against winners of Group B. Winning nation qualifies for finals. Runners-up play Oceania winners for right to play South America Group A runners-up for a place in the finals (United States qualify as hosts).*

Pre-preliminary Round

CARIBBEAN REGION — NORTH

21.03.92 Dominican Rep. v P. Rico 1-2
22.03.92 St Lucia v St Vincent 1-0
29.03.92 P. Rico v Dominican Rep. 1-1
29.03.92 St Vincent v St Lucia 3-1

Preliminary Round

CARIBBEAN REGION — NORTH

26.04.92 Bermuda v Haiti 1-0
25.05.92 Jamaica v Puerto Rico 2-1
25.05.92 Haiti v Bermuda 2-1
30.05.92 Puerto Rico v Jamaica 0-1
St Vincent v Cuba★
★ *Cuba withdrew.*
St Vincent, Bermuda & Jamaica qualify for 1st rnd

CARIBBEAN REGION — SOUTH

19.04.92 Dutch Antilles v Antigua 1-1
26.04.92 Antigua v Dutch Antilles 3-0
26.04.92 Guyana v Surinam 1-2
24.05.92 Barbados v Trin. & Tobago 1-2
25.05.92 Surinam v Guyana 1-1
31.05.92 Trin. & Tobago v Barbados 3-0
Trinidad & Tobago, Antigua and Surinam qualify for 1st rnd

First Round

CENTRAL REGION

19.07.92 Guatemala v Honduras 0-0
19.07.92 Nicaragua v El Salvador 0-5
23.07.92 El Salvador v Nicaragua 5-1
26.07.92 Honduras v Guatemala 2-0
16.08.92 Panama v Costa Rica 1-0
23.08.92 Costa Rica v Panama 5-1
El Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica qualify for 2nd rnd

CARIBBEAN REGION

12.06.92 Antigua v Bermuda 0-3
05.07.92 Trinidad & Tobago v Jamaica 1-2
04.07.92 Bermuda v Antigua 2-1
02.08.92 Surinam v St Vincent 0-0
16.08.92 Jamaica v Trinidad & Tobago 1-1
30.08.92 St Vincent v Surinam 2-1
Bermuda, Jamaica and St Vincent qualify for 2nd rnd

Second Round

GROUP A

08.11.92 Costa Rica v Honduras 2-3
08.11.92 St Vincent v Mexico 0-4
15.11.92 Mexico v Honduras 2-0
15.11.92 St Vincent v Costa Rica 0-1
22.11.92 Mexico v Costa Rica 4-0
22.11.92 St Vincent v Honduras 0-4
29.11.92 Honduras v St Vincent 4-0
29.11.92 Costa Rica v Mexico 2-0
05.12.92 Honduras v Costa Rica 2-1
06.12.92 Mexico v St Vincent 1-0
13.12.92 Costa Rica v St Vincent 5-0
13.12.92 Honduras v Mexico 1-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
MEXICO	6	4	1	1	22	3	9
HONDURAS	6	4	1	1	14	6	9
Costa Rica	6	3	0	3	11	9	6
St. Vincent	6	0	0	6	0	29	0

Mexico & Honduras qualify for final rnd

GROUP B

18.10.92 Jamaica v Canada 1-1
18.10.92 Bermuda v El Salvador 1-0
25.10.92 El Salvador v Canada 1-1
25.10.92 Bermuda v Jamaica 1-1
01.11.92 Canada v Jamaica 1-0
01.11.92 El Salvador v Bermuda 4-1
08.11.92 Canada v El Salvador 2-3
08.11.92 Jamaica v Bermuda 3-2
15.11.92 Canada v Bermuda 4-2
22.11.92 Jamaica v El Salvador 0-2
06.12.92 Bermuda v Canada 0-0
06.12.92 El Salvador v Jamaica 2-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
EL SALVADOR	6	4	1	1	12	6	9
CANADA	6	2	3	1	9	7	7
Jamaica	6	1	2	3	6	9	4
Bermuda	6	1	2	3	7	12	4

El Salvador & Canada qualify for final rnd

Final Round

04.04.93 El Salvador v Mexico 2-1
04.04.93 Honduras v Canada 2-2
11.04.93 Mexico v Honduras 3-0
11.04.93 Canada v El Salvador 2-0
18.04.93 Canada v Honduras 3-1
18.04.93 Mexico v El Salvador 3-1
25.04.93 Mexico v Canada
25.04.93 Honduras v El Salvador
02.05.93 Honduras v Mexico
02.05.93 El Salvador v Canada
09.05.93 Canada v Mexico
09.05.93 El Salvador v Honduras

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Canada	3	2	1	0	7	3	5
Mexico	3	2	0	1	7	3	4
El Salvador	3	1	0	2	3	6	2
Honduras	3	0	1	2	3	8	1

SOUTH AMERICA

9 entries (10 members, Chile suspended)
● *Winners of Group A & winners & runners-up in Group B qualify for finals. Group A runners-up play winners of CONCACAF/Oceania play-off for a place in the finals.*

GROUP A

Argentina, Colombia, Paraguay, Peru.

01.08.93 Colombia v Paraguay
01.08.93 Peru v Argentina
08.08.93 Paraguay v Argentina
08.08.93 Peru v Colombia
15.08.93 Colombia v Argentina
15.08.93 Paraguay v Peru
22.08.93 Argentina v Peru
22.08.93 Paraguay v Colombia
29.08.93 Argentina v Paraguay
29.08.93 Colombia v Peru
05.09.93 Argentina v Colombia
05.09.93 Peru v Paraguay

GROUP B

Brazil, Uruguay, Ecuador, Bolivia, Venezuela.

08.07.93 Ecuador v Brazil
08.07.93 Venezuela v Bolivia
25.07.93 Bolivia v Brazil
25.07.93 Venezuela v Uruguay
01.08.93 Uruguay v Ecuador
01.08.93 Venezuela v Brazil
08.08.93 Bolivia v Uruguay
08.08.93 Ecuador v Venezuela
15.08.93 Bolivia v Ecuador
15.08.93 Uruguay v Brazil
22.08.93 Bolivia v Venezuela
22.08.93 Brazil v Ecuador
29.08.93 Brazil v Bolivia
29.08.93 Uruguay v Venezuela
05.09.93 Brazil v Venezuela
05.09.93 Uruguay v Ecuador
12.09.93 Uruguay v Bolivia
12.09.93 Venezuela v Ecuador
19.09.93 Brazil v Uruguay
19.09.93 Ecuador v Bolivia

OCEANIA

7 entries (8 members, Western Samoa withdrew)
● *The two Group winners play (home & away) with the winners qualifying to meet the CONCACAF runners-up. The winners of that match will meet the South America Group A runners-up for a place in the finals.*

GROUP 1

11.07.92 Solomon Islands v Tahiti 1-1
04.09.92 Solomon Islands v Australia 1-2
11.09.92 Tahiti v Australia 0-3
20.09.92 Australia v Tahiti 2-0
25.09.92 Australia v Solomon Islands 6-1
09.10.92 Tahiti v Solomon Islands 4-2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AUSTRALIA	4	4	0	0	13	2	8
Tahiti	4	1	1	2	5	8	3
Solomon Islands	4	0	1	3	5	13	1

Australia qualify for final play-off

GROUP 2

07.06.92 New Zealand v Fiji 3-0
27.06.92 Vanuatu v New Zealand 1-4
07.07.92 New Zealand v Vanuatu 8-0
12.09.92 Fiji v Vanuatu 3-0
19.09.92 Fiji v New Zealand 0-0
26.09.92 Vanuatu v Fiji 0-3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
NEW ZEALAND	4	3	1	0	15	1	7
Fiji	4	2	1	1	6	3	5
Vanuatu	4	0	0	4	1	18	0

New Zealand qualify for final play-off

PLAY-OFF

1st leg
29.05.93 New Zealand v Australia
2nd leg
06.06.93 Australia v New Zealand

ASIA

29 entries (36 members)
● *The six Group winners qualify for Second Round, to be played as (home & away) mini-league. Winners & runners-up qualify for finals.*

First Round

GROUP A

22.05.93 Jordan v Yemen ▲
22.05.93 Pakistan v China ▲
24.05.93 Jordan v Iraq ▲
24.05.93 Yemen v Pakistan ▲
26.05.93 Jordan v China ▲
26.05.93 Yemen v Iraq ▲
28.05.93 Pakistan v Iraq ▲
28.05.93 Yemen v China ▲
30.05.93 Jordan v Pakistan ▲
30.05.93 Iraq v China ▲
12.06.93 Yemen v Jordan ▼
12.06.93 China v Pakistan ▼
14.06.93 Iraq v Jordan ▼
14.06.93 Pakistan v Yemen ▼
16.06.93 China v Jordan ▼
16.06.93 Iraq v Yemen ▼
18.06.93 Iraq v Pakistan ▼
18.06.93 China v Yemen ▼
20.06.93 Pakistan v Jordan ▼
20.06.93 China v Iraq ▼
▲ in Amman, Jordan
▼ in Beijing, China

GROUP B

28.06.93 Iran v Oman ▲
28.06.93 Taiwan v Syria ▲
30.06.93 Oman v Syria ▲
30.06.93 Iran v Taiwan ▲
02.07.93 Oman v Taiwan ▲
02.07.93 Iran v Syria ▲
07.07.93 Oman v Iran ▼
07.07.93 Syria v Taiwan ▼
09.07.93 Syria v Oman ▼
09.07.93 Taiwan v Iran ▼
11.07.93 Taiwan v Oman ▼
11.07.93 Syria v Iran ▼
▲ in Tehran, Iran
▼ in Damascus, Syria
★ *Myanmar (formerly Burma) withdrew.*

GROUP C

09.04.93 Qatar v Indonesia ▲ 3-1
09.04.93 North Korea v Vietnam ▲ 3-0
11.04.93 North Korea v Singapore ▲ 2-1
11.04.93 Qatar v Vietnam ▲ 4-0
13.04.93 North Korea v Indonesia ▲ 4-0
13.04.93 Vietnam v Singapore ▲ 2-3
16.04.93 Qatar v Singapore ▲ 4-1
16.04.93 Vietnam v Indonesia ▲ 1-0
18.04.93 Indonesia v Singapore ▲ 0-2
18.04.93 Qatar v North Korea ▲ 1-2
24.04.93 Indonesia v Qatar ▼ 1-4
24.04.93 Vietnam v North Korea ▼ 0-1
26.04.93 Singapore v North Korea ▼ 1-3
26.04.93 Vietnam v Qatar ▼ 0-4
28.04.93 Indonesia v North Korea ▼
28.04.93 Singapore v Vietnam ▼
30.04.93 Singapore v Qatar ▼
30.04.93 Indonesia v Vietnam ▼
02.05.93 Singapore v Indonesia ▼
02.05.93 North Korea v Qatar ▼
▲ in Doha, Qatar
▼ in Singapore

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
North Korea	6	6	0	0	15	3	12
Qatar	6	5	0	1	20	5	10
Singapore	5	2	0	3	8	10	4
Vietnam	6	1	0	5	3	15	2
Indonesia	5	0	0	5	2	14	0

GROUP D

07.05.93 Lebanon v India ▲
07.05.93 Hong Kong v Bahrain ▲
09.05.93 Bahrain v South Korea ▲
09.05.93 Lebanon v Hong Kong ▲
11.05.93 India v Hong Kong ▲
11.05.93 Lebanon v South Korea ▲
13.05.93 Lebanon v Bahrain ▲
13.05.93 India v South Korea ▲
15.05.93 Hong Kong v South Korea ▲
15.05.93 Bahrain v India ▲
05.06.93 South Korea v Hong Kong ▼
05.06.93 Bahrain v Lebanon ▼
07.06.93 India v Bahrain ▼
07.06.93 South Korea v Lebanon ▼
09.06.93 Hong Kong v Lebanon ▼
09.06.93 South Korea v India ▼
11.06.93 India v Lebanon ▼
11.06.93 Bahrain v Hong Kong ▼
13.06.93 South Korea v Bahrain ▼
13.06.93 Hong Kong v India ▼
▲ in Beirut, Lebanon
▼ in Seoul, South Korea

GROUP E

01.05.93 Saudi Arabia v Macao ▲
01.05.93 Malaysia v Kuwait ▲
03.05.93 Kuwait v Macao ▲
03.05.93 Malaysia v Saudi Arabia ▲
05.05.93 Saudi Arabia v Kuwait ▲
05.05.93 Malaysia v Macao ▲
14.05.93 Malaysia v Kuwait ▼
14.05.93 Saudi Arabia v Macao ▼
16.05.93 Macao v Kuwait ▼
16.05.93 Saudi Arabia v Malaysia ▼
18.05.93 Malaysia v Macao ▼
18.05.93 Saudi Arabia v Kuwait ▼
▲ in Kuala Lumpur
▼ in Riyadh

GROUP F

08.04.93 Japan v Thailand ▲ 1-0
08.04.93 Sri Lanka v UAE ▲ 0-4
11.04.93 Japan v Bangladesh ▲ 8-0
11.04.93 Thailand v Sri Lanka ▲ 1-0
13.04.93 Sri Lanka v Bangladesh ▲ 0-1
13.04.93 UAE v Thailand ▲ 1-0
15.04.93 Japan v Sri Lanka ▲ 5-0
15.04.93 UAE v Bangladesh ▲ 1-0
18.04.93 Japan v UAE ▲ 2-0
18.04.93 Thailand v Bangladesh ▲ 4-1
28.04.93 Thailand v Japan ▼
28.04.93 UAE v Sri Lanka ▼
30.04.93 Bangladesh v Japan ▼
30.04.93 Thailand v UAE ▼
03.05.93 Bangladesh v UAE ▼
03.05.93 Sri Lanka v Thailand ▼
05.05.93 Bangladesh v Thailand ▼
05.05.93 Sri Lanka v Japan ▼
07.05.93 Bangladesh v Sri Lanka ▼
07.05.93 UAE v Japan ▼
▲ in Tokyo, Japan
▼ in Dubai, UAE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Japan	4	4	0	0	16	0	8
UAE	4	3	0	1	6	2	6
Thailand	4	2	0	2	5	3	4
Bangladesh	4	1	0	3	2	13	2
Sri Lanka	4	0	0	4	0	11	0

EUROPE

AUSTRIA

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 4

MIDWEEK

RAPID WIEN 2
ST POLTEN 2

SALZBURG 1
ADMIRA WACKER 0

WEEKEND

WACKER INNSBRUCK 0
SALZBURG 2

ST POLTEN 0
AUSTRIA WIEN 0

ADMIRA WACKER 4
SPORTCLUB 1

RAPID WIEN 3
VORWAERTS STEYR 1

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 11

MIDWEEK

VORWAERTS STEYR 1
WACKER INNSBRUCK 2

SPORTCLUB 2
AUSTRIA WIEN 3

WEEKEND

AUSTRIA WIEN 1
ADMIRA WACKER 3

SALZBURG 2
VORWAERTS STEYR 0

SPORTCLUB 0
RAPID WIEN 2

WACKER INNSBRUCK 0
ST POLTEN 0

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 18

WEEKEND

ADMIRA WACKER 0
WACKER INNSBRUCK 0

ST POLTEN 0
SALZBURG 0

RAPID WIEN 1
AUSTRIA WIEN 5

VORWAERTS STEYR 2
SPORTCLUB 0

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 25

WEEKEND

AUSTRIA WIEN 1
VORWARTS STEYR 0

ST POLTEN 0
ADMIRA WACKER 4

SPORTCLUB 0
SALZBURG 3

WACKER INNSBRUCK 2
RAPID WIEN 0

BELGIUM

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 4

WEEKEND

STANDARD 3 (Wilmots 27, 75, Vof 44)
CERCLE BRUGES 3 (Weber 59, 62, Lauwers 73). **Att:** 13,000.

LIERSE 2 (Simmes 70, Rekdal 77)
GENK 1 (Bosuil 2). **Att:** 4,000.

GENT 1 (Viscaal 69)
ANDERLECHT 1 (Van Vossen 28). **Att:** 13,000.

LOMMEL 3 (Van Gompel 36, Van Geneugden 41, Haagdoren 72)
LOKEREN 2 (De Brul 20, Samson 62). **Att:** 6,000.

CHARLEROI 2 (Brogno 22, Jacquemart 71)
MECHELEN 0. **Att:** 10,000.

CLUB BRUGGE 1 (Dziubinski 65)
LIEGE 0. **Att:** 7,000.

BOOM 0
BEVEREN 4 (Soudan 31, 61, Vanham 76, 80). **Att:** 3,000.

EKEREN 0
WAREGEM 3 (Ducoulombier 3, Kruzen 17, 20). **Att:** 3,000.

RWDM 0
ANTWERP 0. **Att:** 7,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 11

WEEKEND

LIEGE 1 (Arnold 65)
CHARLEROI 3 (Brogno 61, Zetterberg 71, Malbasa 90). **Att:** 8,000.

BEVEREN 0
CLUB BRUGGE 0. **Att:** 3,000.

ANDERLECHT 3 (Crasson 5, Bosman 43, Nilis 55)
LIERSE 0. **Att:** 2,500.

GENK 3 (Busuttil 16, Goots 47, Van der Elst 76)
EKEREN 1 (Hofmans 55). **Att:** 4,000.

LOKEREN 1 (Meszaros 71)
RWDM 0. **Att:** 5,000.

WAREGEM 1 (Vidmar 65)
STANDARD 1 (Wilmots 46). **Att:** 9,500.

MECHELEN 2 (Van Gompel 76, Vermandt 81)
LOMMEL 0. **Att:** 5,000.

CERCLE BRUGES 3 (Goorman 5, Frenay 45, Weber 71)
BOOM 1 (N'Telo 87). **Att:** 1,500.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 18

WEEKEND

CLUB BRUGGE 1 (Dziubinsky 47)
CERCLE BRUGES 3 (Weber 54, Coreman 65, Lauwers 89). **Att:** 9,000.

LOMMEL 3 (Cannaerts 27, Haagdoren 48, Van Geneugoen 70)
LIEGE 2 (Ernes 42, 81). **Att:** 4,000.

CHARLEROI 0
BEVEREN 3 (Soudan 29, 65). **Att:** 12,000.

STANDARD 1 (Wilmots 23)
GENK 1 (Beyens 76). **Att:** 8,000.

LIERSE 0
GENT 0. **Att:** 5,000.

BOOM 0
WAREGEM 2 (Deslouver 21, Urban 88). **Att:** 4,000.

EKEREN 1 (Hoffmans 30)
ANDERLECHT 1 (Versavel 57). **Att:** 10,000.

RWDM 1 (Lean 86 o.g.)
MECHELEN 3 (De Boeck 60, Gijsbrechts 67, Van Gompel 68). **Att:** 8,000.

LOKEREN 0
ANTWERP 0. **Att: 4,000**.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 25

WEEKEND

ANDERLECHT 2 (Boffin 55, Koolman 62)
STANDARD 0. **Att:** 18,000.

GENK 1 (Busuttil 64)
BOOM 2 (Rivas 12, N'Danga 25). **Att:** 5,000.

BEVEREN 0
LOMMEL 1 (Buana 13). **Att:** 5,000.

LIEGE 4 (Ikpeba 38, Arnold 70, Ernes 86, Ikpeba 90)
RWDM 1 (Van Ankeren 26). **Att:** 3,000.

MECHELEN 1 (Vermant 49)
LOKEREN 0. **Att:** 8,000.

GENT 3 (Vandenbergn 54, Schepens 66, Van der Linden 81)
EKEREN 1 (Claesen 46). **Att:** 6,000.

ANTWERP 2 (Lehnhoff 30, Czerniatynski 76)
LIERSE 0. **Att:** 5,000.

WAREGEM 1 (Urban 88)
CLUB BRUGGE 1 (Verheyen 44). **Att:** 15,000.

CERCLE BRUGES 1 (Karacic 43)
CHARLEROI 4 (Brogno 40, Malbasa 58, 80, 88). **Att:** 3,000.

HOLLAND

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 4

MIDWEEK

FORTUNA SITTARD 1 (Stalonci 37)
GRONINGEN 1 (Riekenrik 33). **Att:** 3,000.

WEEKEND

VOLENDAM 1 (Benken 74)
GRONINGEN 3 (Hamming 11, 34, 78). **Att:** 3,000.

PSV 6 (V.D. Gaag 8, Romario 28, 61, 78, Linskens 52, Koeman 80)
TWENTE 2 (Vurens 34, Polley 82). **Att:** 27,700.

RODA JC 2 (Leupers 28, Broeders 44)
WILLEM II 0. **Att:** 2,000.

SPARTA 1 (Van Den Berg 35 pen)
FORTUNA SITTARD 0. **Att:** 2,000.

RKC 1 (Jalink 3)
FEYENOORD 2 (Witschge 37, Blinker 45). **Att:** 6,600.

GA EAGLES 1 (Bosvelt 78)
UTRECHT 1 (Smolarek 90). **Att:** 5,000.

CAMBUUR 0
MVV 4 (Lanckohr 55, Meijer 62, 70, 82). **Att:** 5,000.

SVV/DORDRECHT 3 (Langerak 9, 12, 16)
VITESSE 3 (Gillhaus 43, 77, Latuheru 89). **Att:** 6,800.

AJAX 4 (Bergkamp 8, 46, Ouiida 42, Pettersson 73 pen)
DEN BOSCH 0. **Att:** 19,140.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 11

WEEKEND

MVV 1 (Meijer 47)
AJAX 1 (Pettersson 58). **Att:** 11,643.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 18

MIDWEEK

VITESSE 2 (Gillhaus 45, Van Den Brom 7* pen)
DEN BOSCH 0. **Att:** 5,278.

SVV/DORDRECHT 0
GA EAGLES 0. **Att:** 800.

UTRECHT 1 (Roest 14)
SPARTA 1 (Valke 63). **Att:** 3,995.

FORTUNA 1 (Barmentloo 86)
PSV 5 (Kieft 3, Linskens 45 pen, Van Der Gaag 60, Romario 63). **Att:** 6,200.

TWENTE 2 (Vourens 30, Mols 84)
VOLENDAM 1 (Steur 89). **Att:** 11,311.

FEYENOORD 3 (Kipnich 57, 71, Heux 61)
CAMBUUR 1 (De Gier 10). **Att:** 23,532.

GRONINGEN 0
RODA JC 0. **Att:** 9,500.

WILLEM II 0
RKC 2 (Boogers 53, Streppal 67). **Att:** 6,250.

WEEKEND

SPARTA 0
SVV/DORDRECHT 0.

PSV 3 (Romario 10, 51, Koeman 19)
UTRECHT 1 (Oosterhuis 73).

CAMBUUR 3 (De Gier 6, Van Oostrum 8, 61)
WILLEM II (Van Arum 81).

DEN BOSCH 4 (Derksen 38, 74, Smeets 44, Petrovic 64)
MVV 1 (Lanckorr 48).

GA EAGLES 0
VITESSE 3 (Van Den Brom 42 pen, Eljer 68, Latheuru 81).

VOLENDAM 2 (Bond 65, Steur 66 pen)
FORTUNA SITTARD 0.

RODA JC 2 (Van der Luer 82 pen, Hofstede 88)
TWENTE 2 (Arts 15, Van Halst 80).

RKC 1 (Boogers 49)
GRONINGEN 2 (Hamming 17, 88).

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 25

AJAX 1 (Pettersson 8)
VOLENDAM 1 (Wasiman 43). **Att:** 19,500.

FORTUNA 1 (Snaekes 90)
RODA JC 1 (Broeders 85). **Att:**4,500.

GRONINGEN 2 (Huizing 36, Roessien 43)
UTRECHT 1 (Smolarek 25). **Att:** 11,475.

PORTUGAL

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 4

WEEKEND

BENFICA 2 (Pacheco 45, 68)
GIL VICENTE 1 (Miguel 43). **Att:** 30,000.

PACOS FERREIRA 1 (Yulian 5)
BELENENSES 1 (Mauro Soares 31). **Att:** 8,300.

SPORTING LISBON 4 (Cadete 56, Balakov 58 pen, Juskowiak 78, Valckx 88)
BOAVISTA 0. **Att:** 30,000.

TIRSENSE 1 (Joao Mario 47)
ESTORIL 0. **Att:** 6,800.

SALGUEIROS 1 (Parente 33 pen)
MARITIMO 2 (Gustavo 43, 60). **Att:** 7,000.

ESPINHO 2 (Aziz 19, Gilson 30)
CHAVES 2 (Karoglan 7, Pedro 89). **Att:** 6,000.

FAMALICAO 0
BEIRA-MAR 1 (Dino 18). **Att:** 10,000.

BRAGA 0
GUIMARAES 1 (Alexandrov 56). **Att:** 15,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 11

GUIMARAES 3 (Ziao 15, 83, N'Dinga 62)
ESPHINO 1 (Alain 85). **Att:** 5,000.

BEIRA-MAR 0
BRAGA 0. **Att:** 4,000.

CHAVES 2 (Lima Pereira 31, Karoglan 68)
FARENSE 2 (Hassan 73, Stefan 81). **Att:** 2,000.

MARITIMO 4 (Humberto 27, P. Alves 70, 75, Edmilsson 79)
FAMALICAO 2 (Mitharsky 33, 40). **Att:** 10,000.

PORTO 0
SPORTING LISBON 0. **Att:** 50,000.

ESTORIL 1 (Duffort 36)
SALGUEIROS 0. **Att:** 3,000.

BOAVISTA 2 (Brandao 2, Artur 75 pen)
BENFICA 3 (Yuran 14, 47, Isaias 38). **Att:** 12,500.

BELENENSES 3 (Mauro Airez 17, 60, 90)
TIRSENSE 0. **Att:** 3,000.

GIL VICENTE 0
PACOS FERREIRA 1 (M. Bruno 13). **Att:** 4,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 18

WEEKEND

BENFICA 0
PORTO 0

FAMALICAO 1
ESTORIL 2

SALGUEIROS 2
BELENENSES 1

FARENSE 4
GUIMARAES 1

BOAVISTA 2
GIL VICENTE 0

TIRSENSE 0
PACOS FERREIRA 0

BRAGA 2
MARITIMO 1

ESPINHO 1
BEIRA-MAR 3

SWITZERLAND

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 4

WEEKEND

SION 2 (Assis 14, Tulio 81)
LUGANO 0. **Att:** 6,500.

NEUCHATEL XAMAX 3 (Bouin 59, Rothenbuhmer 63, Sutter 69)
ZURICH 0. **Att:** 5,500.

YOUNG BOYS 1 (Andersson 20)
SERVETTE 1 (Freun 45). **Att:** 5,*00.

LAUSANNE 2 (Beguin 26, Fink 69)
AARAU 1 (Wassmer 48). **Att:** 5,500.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 11

WEEKEND

LUGANO 2 (Subiat 46, 57)
YOUNG BOYS 1 (Jakobsen 86). **Att:** 3,800.

ZURICH 2 (Kagi 23, 61)
LAUSANNE 1 (Vernaz 1). **Att:** 3,100.

SERVETTE 5 (Anderson 24, 58, Miecarski 32, Sinval 35, 76)
SION 2 (Tulio 72, Biaggi 83). **Att:** 6,300.

ARRAU 1 (Rossi 17)
NEUCHATEL XAMAX 0. **Att:** 3,700.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 18

WEEKEND

CUP — 5TH ROUND

BASEL 3
SAVIESE 0

SERVETTE 1
LOCARNO 0

SCHAFFHOUSE 0
FC ZURICH 5

KRIENS 3
BUOCHS 2

YOUNG BOYS 1
LUGANO 1
(Lugano won 5-4 on pens)

LAUSANNE 1
SION 1
(Sion won 4-3 on pens)

NEUCHATEL XAMAX 2
LUCERNE 1

FRIBOURG 0
GRASSHOPPER 4

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 25

MIDWEEK

CUP — QUARTER-FINALS

BASEL 2
NEUCHATEL XAMAX 3

LUGANO 4
FC ZURICH 2

KRIENS 2
GRASSHOPPER 3

SERVETTE 2
SION 2
Servette won on pens

WEEKEND

NEUCHATEL XAMAX 2 (B. Sutter 55, Bonvin 76)
LAUSANNE 2 (Comisetti 20, Fink 35). **Att:** 11,100.

SERVETTE 1 (Anderson da Silva 58)
LUGANO 0. **Att:** 4,000.

YOUNG BOYS 2 (Jakobsen 46, Bregy pen 86)
SION 1 (Marcio 30). **Att:** 6,700.

FC ZURICH 0
AARAU 0. **Att:** 7,200.

INTERNATIONAL

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21

Group A

CLUB BRUGGE 0
MARSEILLE 1 (Boksic 2)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 19,000. **Ref:** Craciunescu (Rom)
Brugge: Verlinden — Disztl, Creve, Staelens, Cossey, Borkelmans, Schaessens, Vanmaele (Renier 81), Dziubinski, Verheyen, Amokachi.
Marseille: Barthez — Angloma, Desailly, Boli, Thomas, Eydelie, Deschamps, Ferreri (Sauzee 46), Pele, Boksic, Voller.

RANGERS 0
CSKA MOSCOW 0
Att: 43,142. **Ref:** Mikkelsen (Den)
Rangers: Goram — McPherson, Gough, J Brown, D Robertson — Steven (McSwegan 80), McCall, Hurstra, Ferguson — McColst, Durrant.
CSKA: Plotnikov — Gushin, Mamchur, Mashkarin, Malukov — Bushmanov, Minko, Karsakov, Antonovich — Sergeyev, Faizulin (Dudnik 60).

Final table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
MARSEILLE	6	3	3	0	14	4	9
Rangers	6	2	4	0	7	5	8
Club Brugge	6	2	1	3	5	8	5
CSKA Moscow	6	0	2	4	2	11	2

Group B

MILAN 2 (Simone 5, 18)
PSV EINDHOVEN 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 58,862. **Ref:** Puhl (Hun)
Milan: Cudicini — Nava, Costacurta, Maldini, Gambaro, Donadoni, Evani, Boban, De Napoli, Simone (Massaro 34), Savicevic.
PSV: De Ron — Van Aerle (Beerens 37), E Koeman, Van Tiggelen, Van der Gaag — Popescu, Linskens (Klomp 77), Vanenburg, Ellerman — Romario, Hoekstra.

FC PORTO 2 (Ze Carlos 42, Timofte 56)
IFK GOTHENBURG 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 15,000. **Ref:** Elleray (Eng)
Porto: Vitor Baia — Bandeirinha, Ze Carlos, Fernando Couto, Rui Jorge (Jorge Costa 46) — Timofte, Jaime Magalhaes, Semedo, Andre — Kostadinov (Bino 83), Domingos.
IFK: Ravelli — M Johansson, Bjorklund (Olsson 68), Kaamark, M Nilsson — Lindqvist, Rehn, Mild, Bengtsson — M Martinsson (P Eriksson 58), Ekstrom.

Final table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
MILAN	6	6	0	0	11	1	12
IFK Gothenburg	6	3	0	3	7	8	6
FC Porto	6	2	1	3	5	5	5
PSV Eindhoven	6	0	1	5	4	13	1

CUP-WINNERS' CUP

Semi-finals, first legs

ATLETICO MADRID 1 (Luis Garcia 44)
PARMA 2 (Solozobal og 57, Asprilla 61)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 50,000 (Apr 6). **Ref:** P. Don (Eng)
Atletico: Abel — Juanma, Lopez, Juanito (Ferreira 75), Solozobal, Toni — Alfredo, Manolo (Sabas 63), Schuster, Vizcaino — Luis Garcia, Alfaro.
Parma: Ballotta — Benarrivo, Matrecano, Minotti, Grun, Di Chiara — Zoratto, Cuoghi, Melli (Pizzi 70) — Brolin, Asprilla.

MOSCOW SPARTAK 1 (Piatnitski 36)
ANTWERP 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 60,000 (Apr 7). **Ref:** Sundell (Swe)
Spartak: Cherchesov — Khlestov, Mamedov (Pisarev 57), Chernichev, Ivanov — Karpin, Piatnitski, Popov, Ledjakov — Radchenko, Bestchastnikh.
Antwerp: Stojanovic — Kiekers, Broeckaert, Van Rethy, Smidts — Moukrine, Segers, Jakovljevic, Lehnhoff (De Graef 87) — Severeyns, Czerniatynski.

Semi-finals, second legs

PARMA 0
ATLETICO MADRID 1 (Sabas 77)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 21,915 (Apr 22). **Ref:** Schmnidhuber (Ger)
Parma on away goals: 2-2 agg
Parma: Ballotta — Benarrivo, Grun, Minotti, Apolloni, Matrecano, Pin, Osio (Pizzi 76), Cuoghi, Melli (Hervatin 87), Brolin.
Atletico: Abel — Tomas, Solozabal, Aguilera (*Alfaro 60), Toni — Donato, Sabas, Schuster, *Vizcaino — Alfredo, Luis Garcia (*Juanito 72).
**Juanito sent off 83min; Vizcaino and Alfaro sent off after final whistle.*

ANTWERP 3 (Czerniatynski 37, Lehnhoff 56, Lehnhoff 78 pen)
MOSCOW SPARTAK 1 (Radchenko 9)
Att: 13,500 (Apr 22). **Ref:** Monteiro Gonzalo (Por)
Antwerp 3-2 on agg
Antwerp: Stojanovic — Van Heroegrem (Moukrim 84), Taeymans, Broeckaert, Smidts — Lehnhoff, Van Reeth, Segers — Jakovljevic (Emmerechts 79), Severeyns, Czerniatynski.
Spartak: Cherchesov — Khlestov, *Onopko, Chernishov, Ivanov — Karpin, Ledjakov, Piatnitski, Popov (Bashkin 42) — Radchenko (Baksheyev 44), Pisarev.
**Onopko sent off, 76min.*

UEFA CUP
Semi-finals, first legs
BORUSSIA DORTMUND 2 (Karl 58, Zorc 87)
AUXERRE 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 45,000 (Apr 6). **Ref:** Van der Wingaert (Hol)
Dortmund: Los — Reuter, Schmidt, Zelic, Kutowski, Lusch (Raschke 82), Zorc, Poschner, Rummenigge, Chapuisat, Tretschok (Karl 46).
Auxerre: Martini — Goma, Prunier, Verlaat, Mazzolini, Dutuel, Guerreiro, Martins, Cocard, Baticle, Vahirua.

JUVENTUS 2 (R Baggio 3, 89)
PARIS SG 1 (Weah 23)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 42,793 (Apr 6). **Ref:** Martin Navarrete (Spa)
Juventus: Rampulla — Torricelli, Kohler, Julio Cesar, Marocchi (Di Canio 30), D Baggio, Conte, Platt, R Baggio, Ravanelli, Vialli.
PSG: Lama — Germain, Kombouare, Ricardo, Colleter, Guerin, Le Guen, Fournier, Valdo, Ginola, Weah.

Semi-finals, second legs
AUXERRE 2 (Martins 6, Verlaat 71)
BORUSSIA DORTMUND 0
HT: 1-0. **90min:** 2-0. **Att:** 18,400 (Apr 20). **Ref:** Muhmenthaler (Swi)
Dortmund 8-5 on pens: 2-2 agg
Auxerre: Charbonnier — Goma (Saib 100), Prunier, Verlaat, Mahe, *Guerreiro, Dutuel, Martins, Cocard, Baticle (Laslandes 106), Vahirua.
**Guerreiro sent off, 106min.*
Dortmund: Klos — Schmidt, Schulz, Zelic (Grauer 104), *Kutowski, Lusch (Mill 74), Zorc, Karl, Reinhardt, Rummenigge, Chapuisat.
** Kutowski sent off, 97min.*

PARIS SG 0
JUVENTUS 1 (R Baggio 77)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 48,000 (Apr 22). **Ref:** Ullenberg (Hol)
Juventus 3-1 on agg
PSG: Lama — Fournier (Simba 61), Kombouare, Ricardo, Colleter (Germain 80), Roche, Le Guen, Guerin, Valdo, Ginola, Weah.
Juventus: Rampulla — Torricelli, Carrera, Julio Cesar, De Marchi, Galia, Marocchi, Platt, R Baggio (Di Canio 87), Vialli, Moller (Casiraghi 65).

INTERNATIONAL RESULTS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31

Mar 31 = Santiago — intl friendly
CHILE 2 (Estay 54 pen, Sierra 57)
BOLIVIA 1 (Rios 57)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Marin (Chi)
Chile: Marcelos Ramirez — Mendoza, Vilches, Miguel Ramirez, Margas, Musri, Pizarro, Estay (Guevara), Vesa (Sierra), Zambrano, Castrillo (Jara).
Bolivia: Rojas — J Pena, Rivero, Quinteros, Soruco, Melgar, Cristaldo, Sanchez (Moreno), Aramayo (Takeo), A Pena, Rios.

Mar 31 = Medellin — intl friendly
COLOMBIA 4 (Valencia 25, 87, De Avila 42, Pacheco 65)
COSTA RICA 1 (Fonseca 36)
HT: 2-1. **Att:** 8,000.

SATURDAY, APRIL 3

Apr 3 = Niamey — African Nations qual
NIGER 2 (Moissa Yaya 10, Adamoe Saley 26)
BENIN 2 (Kosoko Kabiroe 3, 85)
HT: 1-2.

SUNDAY, APRIL 4

Apr 4 = San Salvador — WC CONCACAF gp 2
EL SALVADOR 2 (Castro 41pen, Renderos 77)
MEXICO 1 (Garcia Aspe 75)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 40,000.
El Salvador: Carlos Rivera — Osorio, Trigueros, Carcamo, Abrego, Guillermo Rivera, Castro, Lazo, Cienfuegos (Iraeta 77), Diaz Arce, Jorge Gonzalez.
Mexico: Campos — Suarez, Ambriz, Nava (Cruz 39), Ramirez, Garcia Aspe, Espana, Herrera, Galindo, Uribe (Patino 56), Hugo Sanchez.

Apr 4 = Tegucigalpa — WC CONCACAF gp 2
HONDURAS 2 (Rodolfo Smith 41 pen, Obando 89)
CANADA 2 (Mitchell 34pen, Bunbury 66)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 30,000. **Ref:** Smith (Jam)
Honduras: Rivera — Cruz, Martinez Sambula, Yearwood, Castro, Pineda, Calix, Richardson Smith, Suazo, Juan Flores, Dolmo Flores (Obando 52).
Canada: Forrest — Yallop, Sweeney, Watson, Samuel, Miller, Peschisolido (Valentine 46), Hooper, Bunbury, Catliff (Norman 73), Mitchell.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7

Apr 7 = Ljubljana — intl friendly
SLOVENIA 2 (Zulic 14, Udovic 15)
ESTONIA 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 2,000. **Ref:** Wiesser (Aut)
Slovenia: Simeunovic (Boskovic 71) — Zidan, Novak, Elsner, Poljsek — Englaro (Kosic 84), Jermanic (Benedejcic 50), Zurtic, Pate — Poznic (Simundze 71), Udovic.
Estonia: Poom — R Kallaste, T Kallaste (Ratnikov 68), Princs, Kaljend — Linnmae (Veensalu 18), Olumets (Dorisov 46), Kristal (Oleski 62), Rejm — Pustov, Rajala (Lemsalu 74).

THURSDAY, APRIL 8

Apr 8 = Kobe — WC Asian gp F
JAPAN 1 (Miura 29)
THAILAND 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 40,000.
Japan: Matsunaga — Horiike, Hashiratani, Tsunami, Ihara — Fukuda, Ramos, Yoshida, Moriyasu — Takagi, Miura.
Thailand: Kamplam — Thaveechalermdit, Akarapong, Pongjan, Kadalee, Tongsukkao — Jaturpattarapong, Damrongongtrakul, Charoenvong — Senamuang, Deesunthai.

Apr 8 = Kyoto — WC Asian gp F
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES 4 (Ali Thani 21, Adnan Khamis Al-Taniyani 24, Khamis Saad Mubarak Saad 56, 88)
SRI LANKA 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 6,000.
UAE: Saeed Jumaa Waleed — Mahamed Obaid Milal, Abdulrahman M Al-Hadad, Ibrahim Meer A Abdelnour, Ismail Rashed Ismail — Bakhit Saad Mubarak Saad, Abdulrazaq Ibrahim Al-Balooshi, Hussain Ghalloum Abbas Ali, Ali Thani, Andulkhaliq — Adnan Khamis Al Taniyani. Sub: Khamis Saad Mubarak Saad.
Sri Lanka: Weerasinghe — Sampath Perera, Hassimadeen, Antonypillai, Ferdinand, Shanthakumar — Usman, Stalnwall, Preena, Kabeer — Roshan Perera.

Apr 8 = Doha, Qatar — WC Asian gp C
NORTH KOREA 3 (Won Nam-choe 29, Yong Son-choe 84, Song Gun-ruy 85)
VIETNAM 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 10,000.

Apr 8 = Doha, Qatar — WC Asian gp C
QATAR 3 (Mahmoud Soufi 51, 79, Fahad Al-Kuwari 55)
INDONESIA 1 (Singgih Pitono 85)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 10,000.

FRIDAY, APRIL 9

Apr 9 = Riyadh — intl friendly
SAUDI ARABIA 0
UNITED STATES 2 (Moore 79, Michallik 82)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 27,000. **Ref:** Al-Sharaef (SA)
S Arabia: Mohammed Al-Doaya — Abdullah Al-Saleh, Khalid Musaad, Fuad Anwere, Mohammed Abduljawad, Mohammed Al- Khlaywi, Sami Al-Jaber (Fahad Al-Handan 81), Ahmed Jameel, Fahad Al-Muhallal, Saeed Al-Owyram (Fahad Al-Ghesghayan 66), Khalid Al-Hazaa (Hamza Saleh 66).
US: Friedel — Balboa, Lalas, Lapper, Agoos (Caligiuri 76), Clavijo, Quinn (Michallik 65), Henderson (Moore 86), Murray (Jones 1; Kinnear 85), Perez, Harbor (Vermes 78).

Apr 9 = Annaba — African Nations qual
ALGERIA 0
SIERRA LEONE 0
Att: 25,000.
Algeria: Acim — Herris, Meftah, Amrouche, Belatoui — El Ouzani, Dziri, Meziane, D Dahleb (Zekri 71) — Tasfaout, Rahmouni (Brahimi 46).
S Leone: Osail — Kelmoka, Mansaray, Lamine, Kamara — Sama, Allen (Doumdioui 46), Kanu, Gnabalokko — Tumbu, Wurie.

SATURDAY, APRIL 10

Apr 10 = Doha, Qatar — WC Asian gp C
QATAR 4 (Mustafa 33, Mahmoud Soufi 36, Khalaf 49, Sultan Al-Kowari 58)
VIETNAM 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 12,000.

Apr 10 = Doha, Qatar — WC Asian gp C
N KOREA 2 (In Chol Cho 60, Won Nam Choe 72)
SINGAPORE 1 (Sundamoorthy 32)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 12,000.

Apr 10 = Kobe, Japan — WC Asian qual gp F
THAILAND 1 (Kiatisuk Senamuang 61)
SRI LANKA 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 3,000.

Apr 10 = Tokyo — WC Asian qual gp F
JAPAN 8 (Kazu Miura 18, 44, 52, 53, Takagi 25, 57, Fukuda 58, 88)
BANGLADESH 0
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 53,000.

Apr 10 = Lusaka — African Nations qual
ZAMBIA 0
ZIMBABWE 0
Att: 12,000.

Apr 10 = Johannesburg — African Nations qual
SOUTH AFRICA 0
MAURITIUS 0
Att: 28,000.

Apr 10 = Accra — African Nations qual
GHANA 1 (Frimpong Manso 87)
LIBERIA 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 35,000.

Apr 10 = Cairo — African Nations qual
EGYPT 2 (Hossam Hassan 25, Yasser Erzat 47)
MALI 1 (Makan Kite 47)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 70,000.

SUNDAY, APRIL 11

Apr 11 = Mexico City — WC CONCACAF qual
MEXICO 3 (Flores 7, Sanchez 76 pen, Ambriz 89)
HONDURAS 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 120,000. **Ref:** Gutierrez (CR)
Mexico: Campos — Herrera, Suarez, Ramirez Perales, Ambriz — Patino (Gutuerrez 29), A Garcia Aspe, Flores (Galindo 89) — L Garcia, Hugo Sanchez.
Honduras: Rivera — Cruz, Yearwood, Martinez Sambula, Fernandez — Castro, Funes (Obando 39), Richardson Smith, Calix — Suazo (J Flores 57), D Flores.

Apr 11 = Libreville — African Nations qual
GABON 2 (Tristan Mombo 20, Regis Mann 23)
BENIN 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 10,000.

Apr 11 = Niamey — African Nations qual
NIGER 0
CAMEROON 0
Att: 18,000.

Apr 11 = Khartoum — African Nations qual
SUDAN 1 (Hamad Al-Nil 30 pen)
UGANDA 1 (Sambo 44)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 20,000.

Apr 11 = Bissau — African Nations qual
GUINEA BISSAU 0
SENEGAL 3 (Diallo 9, Diarra 30, Mangane 68)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 8,000.

Apr 11 = Maputo — African Nations qual
MOZAMBIQUE 0
KENYA 0
Att: 28,000.

Apr 11 = Conakry — African Nations qual
GUINEA 1 (S Kolobat 84)
CONGO 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 16,000.

Apr 11 = Rabat — African Nations qual
MOROCCO 0
MALAWI 1 (Lawrence 89)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 22,000.

Apr 11 = Vancouver — WC CONCACAF qual
CANADA 2 (Bunbury 25, Catliff 33)
EL SALVADOR 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 8,868. **Ref:** Ramesh Ramdhan.
Canada: Forrest — Sweeney, Samuel, Watson, Yallop — Miller, Valentine, Hooper, Mitchell (Mobilio 56) — Bunbury (Norman), Catliff.
El Salvador: C Rivera — Abrego, Trigueros, Carcamo, Osorio — G Rivera (Melendez 46), Lazo, Castro, Magico Gonzalez — Cienfuegos, Diaz Arce (Ulloa 46).

MONDAY, APRIL 12

Apr 12 = Addis Ababa — African Nations qual
ETHIOPIA 1 (Tasfaye Aurgecho 28)
NIGERIA 0
HT: 1-0.

Apr 12 = Maseru — African Nations qual
LESOTHO 1
ZAIRE 1

TUESDAY, APRIL 13

Apr 13 = Radom — intl friendly
POLAND 2 (Lesniak 22, 32)
FINLAND 1 (Heikkinen 42)
HT: 2-1. **Att:** 8,000. **Ref:** Heyneman (Ger)
Poland: Klak (Matysek 46) — Szewczyk, Lesiak (Ledwon 77), Waldoch — Adamczuk, Staniek, Jalocha (Bak 46), Swierczewski (Brzeczek 46) — Dziubinski, Lesniak, Kobylanski.
Finland: Laukkanen — Kinnunen, Petaja, Eriksson (Rajamaki 70), Kanerva — Heikkinen, Suominen (Myyry 74), Lindberg, Hjelm — Litmanen, Patelainer.

TUESDAY, APRIL 13

Apr 13 = Doha — WC Asian qual
N KOREA 4 (Yung Son Choe 19, Song Gun Rye 42, 48, Darwis o.g. 66)
INDONESIA 0
HT: 2-0.

Apr 13 = Doha — WC Asian qual
SINGAPORE 3 (Agmed Fabdi 18, Tan 35 pen, Sundramoorthy 63)
VIETNAM 2 (Van Tam 14, Van Thang Hong 77)
HT: 2-1.

Apr 13 = Kobe — WC Asian qual
UAE 1 (Al-Balooshi Abdulrazak 86)
THAILAND 0
HT: 0-0.

Apr 13 = Tokyo — WC Asian qual
BANGLADESH 1 (Rumi Rizvi Karim 69)
SRI LANKA 0
HT: 0-0.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14

Apr 14 = Trieste — WC Euro gp 1
ITALY 2 (R Baggio 21, Signori 86)
ESTONIA 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 33,000. **Ref:** Sandor (Hun)
Italy: Pagliuca — Porrini (Mannini 46), Di Chiara, D Baggio (Di Mauro 68), Vierchowod, Baresi, Fuser, Albertini, Melli, R Baggio, Signori.
Estonia: Poom — R Kallaste, Lensalu, Prins, Kaljend, T Kallaste, Borisov, Klistal, Rejm (Olumets 89), Ratnikov, Pustov (Rajala 83).

Apr 14 = Copenhagen — WC Euro gp 3
DENMARK 2 (Vilfort 23, Strudal 76)
LATVIA 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 29,088. **Ref:** Pedersen (Nor)
Denmark: Schmeichel — S Nielsen, Rieper, L Olsen, Kjeldbjerg, Goldbaek, Jensen (Larsen 61), Vilfort, Pingel (Strudal 70), Elstrup, B Laudrup.
Latvia: Karavayevs — Gnedois, Sevlyakovs, Ivanovs, Zemlinskis, Erglis, Glatsovs, Astafievs, Tseiberlins (Gilis 46), Linards, Sirins (Bulders 64).

Apr 14 = Bucharest — WC Euro gp 4
ROMANIA 2 (Dumitrescu 33, 55)
CYPRUS 1 (Sotiriu 23)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 30,000. **Ref:** Welser (Aut)
Romania: Stelea — Petrescu, Selymesi, Sandoi, Belodedici, Munteanu, Lacatus (Stinga 78), Sabau, Cesausila (Predatu 64), Hagi, Dumitrescu.
Cyprus: Petridis — Kalotheu, Pittasm, Konstantinou, Christofi, Yiangudaks, Haralambus (Xiuruppas 78), Larku, Sotiriu, Papavasiliu, Savidis (Panayi 89).

Apr 14 = Vienna — WC Euro gp 6
AUSTRIA 3 (Pfeiffenberger 11, Kuhbauer 25, Polster 89)
BULGARIA 1 (Ivanov 54)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 19,500. **Ref:** Khusainov (Rus)
Austria: Wohlfahrt — Streiter, Pecl, Zsak, Feiersinger, Kuhbauer (Cerny 86), Lainer, Baur, Polster, Herzog, Pfeiffenberger (Ogris 68).
Bulgaria: Mikhailov — Dochev (Lechkov 73), Ivanov, Iliev, Bezinski (Iskrenov 82), Yankov, Kostadinov, Kiriakov, L Penev.

Apr 14 = Luxembourg — WC Euro gp 5
LUXEMBOURG 0
RUSSIA 4 (Kirlakov 12, 46, Shalimov 57, Polster 89)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 3,000. **Ref:** Erwin (Nl)
Luxembourg: Koch — Petry, Rossi, Birsens, Wolf, Saibene (Scuto 80), Hellers, Weis, Groff, Malget, Morocuzzi (Till 60).
Russia: Cherchesov — Onopko, Gorlukovich, Ivanov, Shalimov, Kolivanov, Dobrovolski, Kemeyev (Kulkov 60), Kanchelskis, Yuran, Kiriakov (Popov 75).

Apr 14 = Vilnius — WC Euro gp 3
LITHUANIA 3 (V Baltusnikas 20, Sukristovas 25, Baranauaks 63)
ALBANIA 1 (Demollari 86)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 12,000. **Ref:** Markudsson (Ice)
Lithuania: Martinkenas (Stauce 60) — Ziukas, V Baltusnikas, Mazeikis, Kalvaitis, Apanavicius (Sileys 63), Baranauskas, Sukristovas, Poderis, Kirilovas, Zdancius.
Albania: Kapllani — *Dema, Shulu, Bano, Taho, Ocelli, Kushta, Pegini, Dalipi (Dosti 46), Fotuzi, Demollari.
**Dema sent off, 35min.*

Apr 14 = Bochum — intl friendly
GERMANY 6 (Kirsten 69, Effenberg 70, 82, Klinsmann 71, 86, Moller 88)
GHANA 1 (Prince Polley 44)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 37,000. **Ref:** Van der Ende (Hol)
Germany: Kopke — Thon — Kohler, Buchwald — Effenberg, Matthaus (Hassler 84), Zorc, Helmer — Bein (Moller 79) — Riedle (Kirsten 46), Klinsmann.
Ghana: Ansah — Baffoe — Armah (Aboree 66), Frimpong — Ali Ibrahim (Preko 81), Asare, Akonnor (Adjei 52), Y Acheampong — Pele — Prince Polley, Yeboah.

THURSDAY, APRIL 15

Apr 15 = Lyon, France — WC African qual replay
EGYPT 0
ZIMBABWE 0
Att: 10,000. **Ref:** Quiniou (Fras)
Zimbabwe qualify for final round
Egypt: Shoubeir — I Hassan, Hani Ramzy, Kassem, Yaken — El Kas, A Ramzy, Kashba, Magdi, Tolba — H Hassan, Ezza (Maher 41).
Zimbabwe: Grobbelaar — Shonamoyi, Chawanda, Gundani, Mckop — Sibanda, Cumbo, Mapeza, Nkonjera (Lunga 76) — Sawu (M Ndlovu 89), P Ndlovu.

Apr 15 = Kobe — WC Asian qual
UAE 1 (Abdulrazak 53)
BANGLADESH 0
HT: 0-0.

Apr 15 = Tokyo — WC Asian qual
JAPAN 5 (Takagi 10, 49, Hashiratani 18, Miura 34, 51)
SRI LANKA 0
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 50,000.

Apr 15 = Budapest — intl friendly
HUNGARY 0
SWEDEN 2 (Ekstrom 67, Rehn 87)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 5,000. **Ref:** Yavuz (Tur)
Hungary: Petry — Telek — Lorincz — Nagy (Banfi 80), Pisont, Detari, Martor (Illes 78), Balog (Albert 69), Duro — Kiprich (Fodor 78), Hamori (Repasi 46), Szovetsegi.
Sweden: Ravelli — Kamark (P Andersson 46), Jan Eriksson, Ljung — Limpar (S Pettersson 60), Schwarz (Rehn 60), Thern, Bjorklund, Brolin (Dahlin 46), Ingesson — Ekstrom (Landberg 69).

FRIDAY, APRIL 16

Apr 16 = Singapore — intl friendly
AUSTRALIA 1 (Trombali 10)
KUWAIT 0
Att: 2,000.

Apr 16 = Tlemcen — WC African qual
ALGERIA 1 (Tasfaout 28)
IVORY COAST 1 (Ben Salah 4)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 25,000. **Ref:** Yamgo (Con)
Algeria: Acim — Amrouche, Belatoui, Meftah, Dziri — Dahleb (Tahmouni), Cherif El Ouzzani, Saib, Tasfaout — Brahimi, Meziane (Zekri).
Ivory Coast: Konate — Cie, Abdou, Baou, Lacina — Hobou, Kone, Maguy, Komara — Ben Salah, J Tiehi (Outarra).

Apr 16 = Doha — WC Asian qual
QATAR 4 (Mubarak 70pen, 88, Adam 83, K Malki 87)
SINGAPORE 1 (Fandi Ahmad 58)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 12,000.

Apr 16 = Doha — WC Asian qual
VIETNAM 1 (Ha Vuong 61)
INDONESIA 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 12,000.

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SATURDAY, APRIL 17

Apr 17 = Costa Mesa, California — intl friendly
UNITED STATES 1 (Vermes 89)
ICELAND 1 (Stefansson 25)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 3,143. **Ref:** Majid Jay (US)
US: Meola — Balboa (Armstrong 3), Doyle, Clavijo, Caligiuri, Quinn, Henderson (Allnutt 46), Chung (Moore 46), Jones, Kinnear, Harbor (Vermes 65).
Iceland: B Kristinsson (Gottskalksson 46) — Birgisson, O Thordarsson, Bergsson, Bragason (Marteinsson 72), A Gretarsson (Gylfason 85), Orlygsson (Ingolfsson 49), Stefansson (Hordur Magnusson 72), R Kristinsson, Gudjohnsen, Gunnlaugsson.

Apr 17 = Valetta — WC Euro gp 1
MALTA 0
SWITZERLAND 2 (Ohrel 31, Turkyilmaz 89)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 8,000. **Ref:** Craciunescu (Rom).
Malta: Cluett — S Vella, Brincat, Galea, Buhaiar — Busuttil, Buttigieg, Camilleri (Delia 46), Saliba (Carabott 46) — Laferla, Scerri.
Switzerland: Pascolo — Hottiger, Herr, Geiger, Rothenbuhler (Sylvestre 50) — Henchoz, Sforza, A Sutter, Ohrel — Grassi, Bonvin (Turkyilmaz 60).

SUNDAY, APRIL 18

Apr 18 = Singapore — intl friendly
SAUDI ARABIA 3
NEW ZEALAND 1
Att: 2,000.

Apr 18 = Mexico City — WC CONCACAF qual
MEXICO 3 (Ambriz 12, Luis Garcia 55, Ramirez 63)
EL SALVADOR 1 (Ulloa 86)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 120,000. **Ref:** Escobar (Gua)
Mexico: Campos — Gutierrez, Ramirez Perales, Ambriz, R Ramirez — Espana, Patino (Cruz 74), Garcia Aspe, Flores — Luis Garcia, Pelaez (Salvador 80).
El Salvador: Garcia — Osorio, Arce, Abrego, Trigueros (Orellana 46) — Lazio, Rivera (Ulloa 73), Castro, Cienfuegos — Melendez, Diaz Arce.

Apr 18 = Vancouver — WC CONCACAF qual
CANADA 3 (Mobilio 52, Bautista o.g. 62, Catliff 66 pen)
HONDURAS 1 (Pineda 17)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 6,868. **Ref:** Rodriguez Fernandez (Ven)
Canada: Forrest — Sweeney, Samuel, Watson, Yallop — Miller, Hooper (Norman 57), Valentine, Mitchell (Mobilio 46) — Catliff, Bunbury.
Honduras: Bautista — Anariba, Yearwood, Cruz, Funez — Calix, Rochas, Pineda, Martinez (Rivera 65) — Bennett, J Flores (Obando 85).

Apr 18 = Casablanca — WC African qual
MOROCCO 1 (Chaouch 85)
SENEGAL 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 75,000. **Ref:** Faye (Gam)
Morocco: Azmi — Naybet, Abrami, Tigani, Nader — Tahar, Hadrioui, Daoudi, El Hadaoui — Nader (Fertoute), Chaouch.
Senegal: Ndiaye — Diarme, R Mendy, Tambedou Yssa, M-M Diallo — Mangane, Diara, A Mendy, Souleymane — Moussa Ndao, V Diagne.

Apr 18 = Yaounde — WC African qual
CAMEROON 3 (Tchami 8, 53, Ewane 89)
GUINEA 1 (Sylla 62)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 60,000.

Apr 18 = Doha — WC Asian qual
SINGAPORE 2 (Sundramoorthy 59, Rafi Mahamed Ali 76)
INDONESIA 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 12,000.

Apr 18 = Doha — WC Asian qual
QATAR 1 (K Malki 89)
N KOREA 2 (Song Gun Rye 57, 61)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 12,000.

Apr 18 = Tokyo — WC Asian qual
JAPAN 2 (Hashiratani 20, Takagi 76)
UAE 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 50,000.

Apr 18 = Kobe — WC Asian qual
THAILAND 4 (Singserm 20, Piyapong 21, 58, 88)
BANGLADESH 1 (Mahboub 84)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 4,000.

MONDAY, APRIL 19

Apr 19 = Singapore — intl friendly
KUWAIT 3 (A Mohamad 59, Jusam Muhmoud 65, Abdall Ali 79)
AUSTRALIA 1 (Wade 18 pen)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 3,500.

FRIDAY, APRIL 23

Apr 23 = Alexandria — African Nations qual
EGYPT 2 (Ibrahim Hassan 44, Yasser Rayan 54)
MALAWI 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 30,000.

Apr 23 = Algiers — African Nations qual
ALGERIA 4 (Tasfaout 34, 43, Brahimi 70, Zeki 84)
TOGO 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 18,000.

SATURDAY, APRIL 24

Apr 24 = Singapore — WC Asian gp C
QATAR 4 (Al-Malki 35, 61, Fahad Al-Kowari 75, Zamel Al-Kowari 83)
INDONESIA 1 (Sudirman 28pen)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Un Prasert Pirom (Thai)
Qatar: Younis Baker — Zamel Al-Kowari, Al-Adssani, Ali Al- Sulaiti, Hamad Al-Attaya, Sultan Al-Kowari, Youssef Khalar (Faisal Mahmoud 73), Jaffar Al-Kowari, Fahad Al-Kowari, Khalil Al-Malki, Mansoor Muftah (Muhammad Al-Muhaza 65).
Indonesia: Harto — Setyobudi, Darwis, Sudirman, *Hartono, Pribadi, Octoranius, Husani, Darmawan, Setiawan, Pitono.
**Hartono sent off, 48min.*

Apr 24 = Singapore — WC Asian gp C
NORTH KOREA 1 (Li Yong Jin 61)
VIETNAM 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 15,000.
N Korea: Kim Yong Ho — Kim Gwang Min, Pang Gwang Chol, Kim Jyong Il, Yak Yong Bin, Choi Yong Son, Ryv Song Gun, Gong Mun Chol (Li Yong Jin 46), Cho In Chol, Choe Won Nam, Im Hwa Yong (Chong Gang Song 65).
Vietnam: Pham Van Hung (Truong Van Loi 43) — Nguyen Manh Cuong, Pham Tien Dung (Ho Van Tam 79), Nguyen Phuong Trung, Nguyen Van Long, Bui Thong Tan, Nguyenm Hong Son, Lu Dinh Tuang, Nguyen Yuan Thanh, Ha Vuong Ngu.

Apr 24 = Johannesberg — African Nations qual
SOUTH AFRICA 1 (Maponyane 6)
ZIMBABWE 1 (Konjera 80)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 30,000.
S Africa: Crowley — Mtaung, Komphela, Nyathi, Kambule, Tovey, Khuse, Moshoeu (Mlaba 75), Khumalo, Mapanyane (Moloi 55), Madida.
Zimbabwe: Grobbelaar — Mapeza, Chawanda, Shonhayi, Mckop, Sibanda, Gumbo (Madinda Ndlovu 48), Konjera, Adam Ndlovu, Peter Ndlovu, Sawu.

Apr 24 = Nairobi — African Nations qual
KENYA 3 (Nachok 15, Okoth 54, 71)
LESOTHO 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 18,000.

SUNDAY, APRIL 25

Apr 25 = Limassol — WC Euro gp 4
CYPRUS 3 (Xiouppas 7, Sotiriou 43, Y Ioannou 75)
FAROE ISLANDS 1 (Arge 82)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 4,000. **Ref:** Lipkovitch (Isr)
Cyprus: Petridis — Charalambous, Christofi, Pittas, K Konstantinou — Yiangudakis, Larku, Xiouriupas (Ioannou 65), Papavasiliou — Sotiriou (Hadjilukas 76), Savidis.
Faroes: Knudsen — Jakobsen, Johannessen, K Morkore, Justinussen — A Morkore, Faero (Nielsen 46), Olsen, Reynheim (Arge 54) — Hansen, Jonsson.

Apr 25 = Tegucigalpa — WC CONCACAF qual
HONDURAS 2 (Bennetth 28, 63))
EL SALVADOR 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 25,000.
Honduras: W Cruz — Fernandez, A J Cruz, Saruba, Anariba, Pienda (Pastor Martinez), Calix, Rochez, D Flores, Benneth, Suazo (Richardson Smith).
El Salvador: C Rivera — Osorio, Trigueiros, Carcamo, Abrego, Borja, Lazo, Melendez (Ulloa), Cienfuegos, Arce, Iraheta.

Apr 25 = Mexico City — WC CONCACAF qual
MEXICO 4 (Ramon Ramirez 20, 34, Luis Flores 53, Garcia Aspe 68)
CANADA 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 120,000.
Mexico: Campos — Gutierrez (Espana 85), Suarez, Juan Ramirez, Ramon Ramirez, Ambriz, Patino, Luis Flores, Garcia Aspe, Hugo Sanchez, Luis Garcia (Salvador 75).
Canada: Forrest — Yallop, Sweeney, Dasovic, Samuel, Miller, Norman, Valentine (Peschisolido 40), Mobilio (Rizi 60), Bunbury, Catliff.

Apr 25 = Yaounde — African Nations qual
CAMEROON 0
GABON 0
Att: 25,000.

Apr 25 = Niamey — intl friendly
NIGER 4
BENIN 1
Att: 6,000.

Apr 25 = Port-Louis — African Nation qual
MAURITIUS 0
ZAMBIA 3
HT: 8,000.

Apr 25 = Pointe-Noire — African Nations qual
CONGO 0
BURUNDI 0
Att: 4,000.

Apr 25 = Casablanca — African Nations qual
MOROCCO 1 (Fertoute 76)
MALI 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 20,000.

MONDAY, APRIL 26

Apr 26 = Singapore — WC Asian gp C
NORTH KOREA 3 (Choe Won Nam 28, Choe Yong Son 41, 76)
SINGAPORE 1 (Razali Saad 72)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Learnash Ibrahim (UAE)
N Korea: Kim Yong Ho — Kim Gwang Min (Chong Gang Song 73), Tak Yong Bin, Kim Gyonf Il, Pang Gwang Chol, Im Hwe Yong, Cho Im Chol, Gong Mun Chol, Ryu Song Gun, Choe Won Nam (Li Yong Jin 85), Choe Yong Son.
Singapore: Abdul Malek — Razali Saad, Lim Tong Hai, Kadir Yahaya, Saswadimata Dasuki, Malek Awab, E Manimohan (Hasni Haron 64), Nazri Nasirm Fandi Ahmad, Steven Tan, V Sundramoorthy (Nahar Daud 85).

Apr 26 = Singapore — WC Asian gp C
QATAR 4 (Khalil Al-Malki 7, Zamil Al-Kowari 13, Fahad Al-Kowari 52 pen, Ryed Yacoub 65)
VIETNAM 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Chang Shan Yi (Tai)
Qatar: Younis Baker — Hamad Al-Attaya (Ryed Yacoub 10), Zamil Al-Kowari, Yousef Al-Adssani, Youssef Khalaf, Fahad Al-Kowari, Ali Al-Sulaiti, Mansoor Muftah, Khalil Al-Malki, Sultan Al-Kowari, Jaffal Al-Kowari.
Vietnam: Truon Van Loi — Nguyen Manh Cuong, Nguyen Van Long (Le Huynh Duc 66), Bui Thong Tan, Pham Tien Dung, Nguyen Xuan Thanh, Chu Van Mui, Nguyen Phong Trung (Ho Van Tam 54), Nguyen Hong Son, Dinh Thanh Hai, Ha Vuong Ngav Nai.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28

Apr 28 = Wembley — WC Euro gp 2
ENGLAND 2 (Barnes 2, Platt 23)
HOLLAND 2 (Bergkamp 34, Van Vossen 85 pen)
HT: 2-1. **Att:** 73,163. **Ref:** Mikkelsen (Den).
England: Woods — Dixon, Walker, Adams, Keown — Ince, Gascoigne (Merson 46), Palmer, Barnes — Platt, Ferdinand.
Holland: De Goey — Blind, De Boer — Rijkaard, Winter, Wouters, Rob Witschge — Gullit (Van Vossen 69), Bergkamp, Bosman (De Wolf 46), Overmars.

OTHER MATCHES

Apr 12 *(Udine)*: **Croatia 8, Kashima Antlers 1.**
Apr 22 *(Mission Viejo)*: **United States 3** (Moore 11, Kinnear 64, Harbor 84), **Kedah (Mal) 0.**

CLUB MATCHES

Fiorucci Trophy
(White Hart Lane, London)
Spurs 0, Real Madrid 1 (Esnaider)
Spurs 0, Internazionale 0
(Inter 6-5 on pens)
Real Madrid 2 (Zamorano, Esnaider),
Internazionale 1 (Fontolan).
Winners: Real Madrid 6pts. ***Runners-up:*** Inter 2. ***Third:*** Spurs 1.

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP

GROUP 1

Oct 13 *(Perth)*: **Scotland 0, Portugal 0. Oct 15** *(Cremona)*: **Italy 1** (Vieri 53), **Switzerland 0. Nov 17** *(Grenchen)*: **Switzerland 4** (Camenzind 15, Margarini 28, Cornisetti 30, Karlen 37), **Malta 0. Dec 16** *(Valetta)*: **Malta 0, Italy 1** (Galea og 70). **Jan 23: Malta 0, Portugal 2** (Miguel Bruno 60, 77). **Feb 16** *(Aberdeen/Pittodrie)*: **Scotland 3** (Booth 31, 89, Ferguson 48), **Malta 0. Feb 23** *(Braga)*: **Portugal 2** (Jorge Costa 55, Toni 61), **Italy 0. Mar 23** *(Reggio Calabria)*: **Italy 3** (Panucci 39, Favalli 40, Muzzi 75), **Malta 0. Mar 30** *(Yverdon)*: **Switzerland 1** (Camenzind 24), **Portugal 1** (Miguel Bruno 18). **Apr 16** *(Valletta)*: **Malta 1** (own goal), **Switzerland 4** (Setza 21, Cornisetti 22, Mazzarelli 37, Orlando 73).

GROUP 2

Oct 6 *(Serravalle)*: **San Marino 0, Norway 3** (Strandli 26, Swift 56, Petter 76). **Oct 13** *(Utrecht)*: **Holland 1** (Van Gastel 77), **Poland 3** (Hajto 25, Wojciechowski 28, Dabrowski 49); *(Peterborough)*: **England 0, Norway 2** (Strandli 2, Haland 67). **Oct 27** *(Ankara)*: **Turkey 4** (Hasan 7, Bulent 16, 21, Mustafa 44), **San Marino 0. Nov 17** *(Brisbane Road, London)*: **England 0, Turkey 1** (Aydin 76). **Dec 15** *(Istanbul)*: **Turkey 1** (Mujdat 21). **Holland 1** (Davids 14). **Feb 16** *(Luton)*: **England 6** (Hall 22, Flitcroft 24, Anderton 36, Sheron 44, Redknapp 70, McManaman 87), **San Marino 0. Feb 23: Holland 0, Turkey 1. Mar 9** *(Serravalle)*: **San Marino 0, Turkey 2** (Hakan 43, Arif 58). **Mar 23** *(Volendam)*: **Holland 3** (Scheepers 12, 68, Mutsaers 89), **San Marino 0. Mar 30** *(Izmir)*: **Turkey 0, England 0.**

GROUP 3

Oct 13 *(Copenhagen/Osterbro)*: **Denmark 3** (Kristensen 14, Moller 35, 52), **Rep Ireland 2** (Dempsey 5, McGrath 84). **Nov 17** *(Tirana)*: **Albania 0, Germany 1** (Unger 21); *(Jerez)*: **Spain 2** (Kiko 24, Acosta 27), **Rep. Ireland 1** (McCarthy 65). **Dec 15** *(Osnabruck)*: **Germany 1** (Herrlich 37), **Spain 2** (Christiansen 48 o.g., Oscar 65). **Dec 23** *(Osnabruck)*: **Germany 4** (Munch 48, Herrlich 75, 89, Haber 88), **Albania 1** (Pali 56). **Mar 9** *(Dublin)*: **Rep Ireland 0, Germany 1** (Wuck 73). **Mar 23** *(Baunatal)*: **Germany 8** (Lottner 2, Herrlich 17, 69, Wuck 36, Green og 61, Munch 64, Haber 73, Worns 74), **Rep Ireland 0. Mar 30** *(Copenhagen)*: **Denmark 0, Spain 1** (Guerreiro 53). **Apr 14** *(Copenhagen)*: **Denmark 1** (Moller 59), **Germany 4** (Zege 30, 89, Herrlich 64, Wuck 68).

GROUP 4

Oct 13 *(Serang)*: **Belgium 1** (Crasson 89), **Romania 0;** *(Lamaca/Papadopulos)*: **Cyprus 2** (Marios 64, Kiriakos 84), **Wales 4** (Bowen 34, Blake 39, 50, 75). **Nov 13** *(Bucharest)*: **Romania 1** (Moldovan 44), **Czechoslovakia 0. Nov 17** *(Kortrijk)*: **Belgium 3** (Crasson 25 pen, Goossens 27, Walem 82), **Wales 1** (Lee Jones 21). **Nov 28** *(Paralimni)*: **Cyprus 0, Romania 2** (Safta 31, Stinga 74). **Mar 23** *(Paralimni)*: **Cyprus 0, Czechoslovakia 2** (Bejbl 16, Gunda 54). **Mar 30** *(Cardiff)*: **Wales 0, Belgium 0. Apr 13** *(Bucharest)*: **Romania 1** (Matinca 10), **Cyprus 0.**

GROUP 5

Oct 7 *(Reykjavik)*: **Iceland 1** (T Gudjonsson 81pen), **Greece 3** (Mahlas 4, Kostic 73, 88). **Oct 13** *(Moscow)*: **Russia 5, Iceland 0. Oct 27** *(Moscow)*: **Russia 2** (Sherbakov, Bestchastnikh), **Luxembourg 1** (Cardoni). **Nov 10** *(Edhessa)*: **Greece 2, Hungary 1. Nov 11** *(Bucharest)*: **Romania 1** (Moldovan 44), **Czechoslovakia 0. Nov 17** *(Kortrijk)*: **Belgium 3** (Crasson 25 pen, Goossens 27, Walem 82), **Wales 1** (Lee Jones 21). **Feb 17** *(Athens)*: **Greece 6** (Gonias 7, 52, Giorgatos 9, 68, Alexoudis 80, Poursanides 89), **Luxembourg 0. Mar 30** *(Szekesfehervar)*: **Hungary 1** (Horvath 57), **Greece 2** (Gonias 44, Georgatos 66). **Apr 13** *(Luxembourg)*: **Luxembourg 0, Russia 6** (Esipov 38, 44, 83, Faizulin 47, Bestchastnikh 53, Talaiayev 63).

GROUP 6

Oct 6 *(Halmstad)*: **Sweden 6** (H Larsson 29, 40, 54, A Bild 65, 86, Jegiertz 89), **Bulgaria 0. Oct 14** *(Beauvais)*: **France 6** (Ouedec 8pen, Pedros 12, Nouma 33, Dugarry 41, 55, Vairelles 77), **Austria 1** (Thetis og 44). **Oct 27** *(Vienna)*: **Austria 1** (Pirk 15), **Israel 5** (Keisy 20, Revivo 25 pen, 27, Mizrahi 75, Torjman 76). **Nov 10** *(Herzliya)*: **Israel 1, Sweden 1. Dec 1: Israel 1, Bulgaria 2. Feb 16** *(Herzliya)*: **Israel 1** (A Mizrahi 74pen), **France 2** (Dugarry 12, 85). **Mar 26** *(Modling)*: **Austria 0, France 1** (Ouedec 62). **Apr 13** *(Modling)*: **Austria 2** (Mayrleb 53, 87), **Bulgaria 0.**

SOUTH AMERICA

LIBERTADORES CUP
First round

Group 1

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

In Caracas, Venezuela.
CARACAS FC (Ven) 1 (Vogler)
SPORTING CRISTAL (Peru) 3 (Marquinho, Soto, Avila)
HT: 0-1.

FRIDAY, MARCH 19

In Puerto Ordaz, Venezuela.
MINERVEN (Ven) 0
SPORTING CRISTAL (Peru) 1 (Maestri)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Juan M. Gomez.
Minerven: Carrillo, Pacheco, Tortolero, Ortiz, Morales, Grueso, Erramuspe, Camacho, Matuzyck, Guerra, Marquez.
Sp. Cristal: Miranda, Vidales, Duffo, Avila, Soto, Garay, Palacios, Lobaton, Marquinho, Rivera, Maestri.

TUESDAY, MARCH 23

In Puerto Ordaz, Venezuela.
MINERVEN (Ven) 2 (Camacho 2)
UNIVERSITARIO (Peru) 2 (Baroni, Martinez)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** Luis Marini.
Minerven: Carrillo, Pacheco, Tortolero, Ortiz, Morales, Grueso, Erramuspe, Balcucho, Guerra, Camacho, Matuszick.
Universitario: Zubczuk, Charun, Asteggiano, Reynoso, Carranza, Martinez, Bazalar, Torrealba, Nunes, Gonzalez, Baroni.

In Caracas, Venezuela.
CARACAS FC (Ven) 1 (Miranda)
UNIVERSITARIO (Peru) 1 (Tempone)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** Jorge Zuloaga.
Caracas FC: Baenas, Diaz, Miranda, Jimenez, Borges, Echenausi, Paez Pumar, Lopez, Cavallo (Mouro), Vogles, Letelier.
Universitario: Barrus, Torrealba, Carranza, Duranto, Tempone (Serrano), Castellanos, Bravo, Gonzalez, F. Torrealba, Rodriguez, Palomino (Besada).

SATURDAY, MAY 31

3rd place play-off

In Puerto La Cruz, Venezuela.
MINERVEN (Ven) 1 (Matuszyck)
CARACAS (Ven) 0
HT: 0-0.
Caracas: Baena, Echenausi, Cavalno (Carrero), Paez Pumar, Borges, Gerson Diaz, Miranda, Lopez, Vogler, Hernandez, Mouro.
Minerven: Carrillo, Grueso, Morales, Tortolero, Ortiz (Caminiti), Erramuspe, Balcucho, Pacheco, Guerra, Matuszyck (Rodriguez), Camacho.

Group 2

TUESDAY, MARCH 16

In Oruro, Bolivia.
SAN JOSE (Bol) 1 (Aramayo pen)
BOLIVAR (Bol) 0
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Javier Rosell (Bol).
San Jose: Laime, Vargas, Cossio, Sozzami, Perez, Aramayo, Quinteros, Rioja, Valencia, Villegas, Pena.
Bolivar: Trucco, Montano, Andy, Ferrufino, Rimba, Borja, Soria, Hernandez, Etcheverry, Valdivieso, Hirano.

In Santiago, Chile.
UNIVERSIDAD CATOLICA (Chi) 1 (Barrera)
COBRELOA (Chile) 1 (Figueroa)
HT: 1-0.
Univ. Catolica: Wirth, Romero, Contreras, Vasquez, J. Gomez, Lepe, Parraguez, Reinoso, Cardozo (Umaza), Almada, Barrera.
Cobreloa: Canales, Barco, Jaque, H. Gonzalez, Puebla, Cornejo, Retamar, Miranda (Alvarez), Perez (Fuentes), Figueroa, P. Gonzalez.

TUESDAY, MARCH 23

In Calama, Chile.
COBRELOA (Chile) 2 (Figueroa pen, Quinteros o.g)
SAN JOSE (Bol) 1 (Pena)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Bonifacio Nunez (Par).
Cobreloa: Canales, Barco, Jaque, Puebla, H. Gonzalez, Retamar, Perez, Cornejo, Miranda, Figeroa (Covarrubias), P. Gonzalez.
San Jose: Ouduena, Sozzari, Cossio, Quinteros, Vargas, Perez, Rioja (Villegas), Aramayo, Hicks, Antelo (Valencia), Pena.

FRIDAY, MARCH 26

In Santiago, Chile.
UNIVERSIDAD CATOLICA (Chi) 4 (Vargas, Lopez, Almada pen, Barrera.
SAN JOSE (Bol) 1 (Pena)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 11,000. **Ref:** Ifigenio Verdun (Par).
Univ Catolica: Wirth, Vasquez (Lizama), Romero, Lopez, Tupper, Lepe, Lunari (Perez), Reinoso, Cardozo, Almada, Barrera.
San Jose: Luduena, Vargas, Cossio, Flores, Perez (Rioja), Quinteros,

Aranedo, Valencia, Villegas, Pena, Arias.

TUESDAY, MARCH 30

In Calama, Chile.
COBRELOA (Chile) 1 (Vera)
BOLIVAR (Bol) 1 (Sandy)
HT: 0-0. Att: 15,000. Ref: Javier Castrilli (Arg).
Cobreloa: Canales, Barco, Jaque, Puebla, Retamar, Vera, Perez (Rojas), Gonzalez, Figueroa, Covarrubias, Comejo.
Bolivar: Trucco, Montano (Blanco), Ferrufino, Sandy, Rimba, Soria, Borja, Etcheverry, Hernandez (Hirano), Baldivieso, Castillo.

FRIDAY, APRIL 2

In Santiago, Chile.
UNIVERSIDAD CATOLICA (Chi) 3 (Almada 2, Reinoso)
BOLIVAR (Bol) 0
HT: 1-0. Ref: Francisco Lamolina (Arg).
Univ. Catolica: Wirth, Romero, Vasquez, Lopez, Tupper, Lunari, Lepe, Reinoso, Cardoso, Almada, Barrera.
Bolivar: Trucco, Montano, Sandy, Ferrucio, Rimba, Borja, Soria, Etcheverry, Hernandez (Hirano), Baldivieso, Castillo.

Group 3

TUESDAY, MARCH 16

In Montevideo, Uruguay.
BELLA VISTA (Uru) 2 (Ferraro 2)
BARCELONA (Ecu) 1 (Zambrano)
HT: 1-1. Ref: Claudio Cerdeira (Bra).
Bella Vista: Percovich, Rosa, De Leon, Michelini, Acevedo (Di Conza), Acosta, Tito, Marquez, Lopez Baez (Lancieri), Lujambio, Ferraro.
Barcelona: Morales, Bravo, Noriega, Tenorio, Macias, Rosero, Gomez, Zambrano, Gilson, Munoz (Noriega), Aviles (Carabeli).

FRIDAY, MARCH 19

In Montevideo, Uruguay.
NACIONAL (Uru) 3 (Garcia, Dely Valdez, Vidal Gonzalez)
BARCELONA (Ecu) 0
HT: 1-0. Att: 18,000. Ref: Oscar Godoy (Bra).
Nacional: Sere, Mendez, Canals, Revelez, Soca, Lemos, Gutierrez, Suarez (O'Neil), Garcia, Vidal Gonzalez (Nunez), Dely Valdez.
Barcelona: Morales, Bravo, Noriega, Tenorio, Macias, Carabali, Gomez, Pisano, Munoz, Insua, Gilson.

TUESDAY, MARCH 23

In Montevideo, Uruguay.
BELLA VISTA (Uru) 2 (Ferraro 2)
NACIONAL (Ecu) 0
HT: 2-0. Att: 2,000. Ref: Felix Benegas (Par).
Bella Vista: Percovich, Nunez, De Leon, Michelini, Acevedo, Rodriguez (Di Conza), Acosta, Tito, Marquez, Lujambio, Ferraro.
Nacional: Chiribago, Carcelen, Ballesteros, Quinones, Arroyo, Castaneda (Valencia), Garay (Constante), Vega, Mosquera, Chalan, Vernazza.

FRIDAY, MARCH 26

In Montevideo, Uruguay.
NACIONAL (Uru) 5 (Dely Valdez, Suarez, Lemos, Miranda, Soca)
NACIONAL (Ecu) 1 (Cherrez)
HT: 2-0. Att: 30,000. Ref: Juan Escobar (Par).
Nacional (Uru): Sere, Mendez, Canals, Revelez, Soca, Suarez (O'Neil), Gutierrez, Lemos, Garcia (Miranda), Dely Valdez, Vidal Gonzalez.
Nacional (Ecu): Chiriboga, Arroya, Valencia (Garay), Mosquera, Ballesteros (Castanedas), Vega, Ruiz, Olives, Echeverria, Cherrez, Vernazza.

Group 4

TUESDAY, MARCH 16

In Porto Alegre, Brazil.
INTERNACIONAL (Bra) 0
NACIONAL (Col) 1 (Aristizabal)
HT: 0-0. Att: 8,000. Ref: E. Filippi (Uru).
Internacional: Fernandez, Celio Lino, Celio Silva, Pinga, Daniel, Simon, Elson, Silas, Marquinho (Jairo Lenzi), Mauricio, Gersor (Nando).
Nacional: Higuita, Herrera, Marulanda, Santa, Caicedo, Gomez, Gaviria, Garcia, Serna, Aristizabal, Zuniga (Alirio).

FRIDAY, MARCH 19

In Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
FLAMENGO (Bra) 3 (Wilson Gotardo, Junior, Nelio)
NACIONAL (Col) 1 (Fajardo)
HT: 3-0. Att: 4,000. Ref: Jose L. Da Rosa (Uru).
Flamengo: Gilmar, Charles, Junior Baiano, Wilson Gotardo, Pia, Videmar, Junior, Marquinhos, Nelio, Paulo Nunes (Julio Cesar), Gaucho (Marcelinho).
Nacional: Higuita, Herrera, Marulanda, Caicedo, Santa Gaviria, Gomez, Serna, Garcia, Zuniga, Alirio Serna (Fajardo).

TUESDAY, MARCH 23

In Cali, Colombia.
AMERICA (Col) 4 (Escobar, Da Silva 2, Rincon)
INTERNACIONAL (Bra) 2 (Roberto Elson, Barbosa Ruyney)
HT: 2-1. Att: 20,000. Ref: Alfredo Rodas (Ecu).
America: Comizzo, Cabrera, Jimenez, Cassiani, Perez, Alvarez, Lozano, Rincon, Escobar, Ferreira (Da Silva), De Avila.
Internacional: Fernandez, Daniel, Celio Lino (Caico De Santos), Celio Silva, Pinga, Reynaldo Simao, Roberto Elson, Marco Marquinhos, Silas, Mauricio, Nando (Barbosa Ruyney).

FRIDAY, MARCH 26

In Medellin, Colombia.
NACIONAL (Col) 0
INTERNACIONAL (Bra) 0
Nacional: Franco, Herrera, Marulanda, Caicedo, Santa, Gaviria (Vasquez), Gomez, Garcia, Fajardo (Osorio), Zuniga, A. Serna.
Internacional: Fernandez, Celio Lino, Ricardo, Pinga (Norton), Daniel, Simao, Edson, Baron, Marquinhos, Caico, Rodney (Mauricio).

FRIDAY, APRIL 2

Play-off for 2nd place

In Bogota, Colombia.
AMERICA (Col) 4 (De Avila, Escobar, Perez, Maturana pen)
NACIONAL (Col) 2 (Caicedo, Trellez pen)
HT: 4-1. Att: 35,000.

Group 5

TUESDAY, MARCH 16

In Buenos Aires, Argentina.
RIVER PLATE (Arg) 1 (R. Diaz)
CERRO PORTENO (Par) 1 (Alex)
HT: 0-1. Ref: Hernan Silva (Chi)
River Plate: Zeoli, Basualdo (Roivarola), Caceres, Bustos, Altamirano, Vazquez (Ortega), Zapata, H. Diaz, Da Silva, Medina Bello, R. Diaz.
Cerro Porteno: Mondragon, Balu, Sanabria, Capurro, Alcaraz, Struway, Riveros, Sotelo, Arce, Ferreira, Alex (Chavez).

FRIDAY, MARCH 19

In Rosario, Argentina.
NEWELL'S OLD BOYS (Arg) 1 (Martino)
CERRO PORTENO (Par) 2 (Ferreira 2)
HT: 0-1. Att: 20,000. Ref: Salvador Imperatore (Chi).
Newell's OB: Scoponi, Saldana, Raggio, Pochettino, Berizzo, Berti (Cozzoni), Llop, Martino, Odriozola, Zamora, Navarro (Enria).
Cerro Porteno: Mondragon, Dida, Cristaldo, Capurro, Cristaldo, Capurro, Alcaraz, Sotelo, Struway, Riveros, Arce, Ferreira (Duarte), Rossi (Chavez).

TUESDAY, MARCH 23

In Rosario, Argentina.
NEWELL'S OLD BOYS (Arg) 1 (Pochettino)
OLIMPIA (Par) 1 (Pochettino o.g.)
HT: 1-1. Att: 22,000. Ref: J. Matto (Uru).
Newell's OB: Scoponi, Garfagnoli, Raggio, Pochettino, Berizzo (Berti), Saldana, Llop, Martino, Odriozola, Zamora (Cozzoni), Mendoza.
Olimpia: Goycochea, Caceres, Ayala, Castro, Suarez, Jara Heyn, Vidal Sanabria, Monzon, Gonzalez (Jara), Amarilla, Caballero.

FRIDAY, MARCH 26

In Buenos Aires, Argentina.
RIVER PLATE (Arg) 1 (Lavallen)
OLIMPIA (Par) 0
HT:0-0. Att: 1,500.
River Plate: Zeoli, H. Diaz (Astrada), Caceres, Rivarola, Altamirano, Toresani, Almeyda, Claut, Gallardo, Vazquez (Ortega), Silvani (Lavallen).
Olimpia: Battaglia, Caceres, Ayala, Castro, Vidal Sanabria, Ledesma, Monzon, Ruberto, Caballero, M. Sanabria (Gonzalez), Campos.

MAJOR CLUB INTERNATIONALS

March 18: Penarol (Uru) 0 Huracan (Arg) 0.
March 15: Vasco da Gama (Bra) 0 La Coruna (Spa) 2.
March 27: Sao Paulo (Bra) 2 Sevilla (Spa) 0.

OTHER INTERNATIONALS

March 23: Mexico Select 4 Colo Colo (Chi) 0.
March 27: Mexico Select 1 Penarol (Uru) 1.

1993 LIBERTADORES CUP

FIRST ROUND

GROUP A
(Peru-Venezuela)

07.02.93	Minerven (V) v Caracas (V)	1-0
10.02.93	Sp. Cristal (P) v Universitario (P)	1-3
16.02.93	Sporting Cristal v Caracas	0-1
19.02.93	Universitario v Caracas	4-1
02.03.93	Sporting Cristal v Minerven	6-2
05.03.93	Universitario v Minerven	2-0
10.03.93	Caracas v Minerven	1-1
10.03.93	Universitario v Sporting Cristal	2-2
16.03.93	Caracas v Sporting Cristal	1-3
19.03.93	Minerven v Sporting Cristal	0-1
23.03.93	Minerven v Universitario	2-2
26.03.93	Caracas v Universitario	1-1
	Play-off for third place	
31.03.93	Minerven v Caracas	1-0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
UNIVERSITARIO	6	3	3	0	14	7	9
SPORTING CRISTAL	6	3	1	2	13	9	7
MINERVEN	6	1	2	3	6	12	4
Caracas	6	1	2	3	5	10	4

GROUP B
(Bolivia-Chile)

24.02.93	Cobreloa (Chi) v U. Catolica (Chi)	1-1
25.02.93	Bolivar (Bol) v San Jose (Bol)	3-1
02.03.93	Bolivar v Univ. Catolica	3-1
05.03.93	San Jose v Univ. Catolica	2-5
09.03.93	Bolivar v Cobreloa	3-0
12.03.93	San Jose v Cobreloa	2-3
17.03.93	San Jose v Bolivar	1-0
17.03.93	Univ. Catolica v Cobreloa	1-1
23.03.93	Cobreloa v San Jose	2-1
26.03.93	Univ. Catolica v San Jose	4-1
30.03.93	Cobreloa v Bolivar	1-1
02.04.93	Univ. Catolica v Bolivar	3-0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
UNIV. CATOLICA	6	3	2	1	15	8	8
BOLIVAR	6	3	1	2	10	7	7
COBRELOA	6	2	3	1	8	9	7
San Jose	6	1	0	5	8	17	2

GROUP C
(Uruguay-Ecuador)

17.02.93	Nacional (Ecu) v Barcelona (Ecu)	1-0
17.02.93	Nacional (Uru) v Bella Vista (Uru)	2-2
23.02.93	Barcelona v Bella Vista	2-0
26.02.93	Nacional v Bella Vista	5-0
02.03.93	Barcelona v Nacional (Uru)	1-1
05.03.93	Nacional v Nacional (Uru)	2-0
10.03.93	Barcelona v Nacional	4-0
10.03.93	Bella Vista v Nacional (Uru)	0-1
16.03.93	Bella Vista v Barcelona	2-1
19.03.93	Nacional (Uru) v Barcelona	3-0
23.03.93	Bella Vista v Nacional	2-0
26.03.93	Nacional (Uru) v Nacional	5-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
NACIONAL (Uru)	6	3	2	1	12	6	8
NACIONAL (Ecu)	6	3	0	3	9	11	6
BARCELONA	6	2	1	3	8	7	5
Bella Vista	6	2	1	3	6	11	5

GROUP D
(Brazil-Colombia)

10.02.93	Inter (Bra) v Flamengo (Bra)	0-0
11.02.93	America (Col) v Nacional (Col)	0-3
16.02.93	America v Flamengo	2-1
19.02.93	Nacional v Flamengo	0-1
02.03.93	Flamengo v America	1-3
05.03.93	Inter v America	1-1
10.03.93	Flamengo v Inter	3-1
11.03.93	Nacional v America	3-2
18.03.93	Inter v Nacional	0-1
19.03.93	Flamengo v Nacional	3-1
23.03.93	America v Inter	4-2
26.03.93	Nacional v Inter	0-0
	Play-off for second place	
02.04.93	Nacional v America	2-4

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
FLAMENGO	6	3	1	2	9	7	7
AMERICA	6	3	1	2	12	11	7
NACIONAL	6	3	1	2	8	6	7
Inter	6	0	3	3	4	9	3

GROUP E
(Argentina-Paraguay)

05.02.93	Cerro Porteno (P) v Olimpia (P)	0-0
07.02.93	River Plate (A) v Newell's OB (A)	0-1
12.02.93	Cerro Porteno v Newell's OB	0-0
16.02.93	Olimpia v Newell's OB	1-1
23.02.93	Cerro Porteno v River Plate	2-1
26.02.93	Olimpia v River Plate	1-1
10.03.93	Newell's OB v River Plate	0-0
10.03.93	Olimpia v Cerro Porteno	1-0
16.03.93	River Plate v Cerro Porteno	1-1
19.03.93	Newell's OB v Cerro Porteno	1-2
23.03.93	Newell's OB v Olimpia	1-1
26.03.93	River Plate v Olimpia	1-0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
CERRO PORTENO	6	2	3	1	5	4	7
NEWELL'S OB	6	1	4	1	4	4	6
OLIMPIA	6	1	4	1	4	4	6
River Plate	6	1	3	2	4	5	5

Newell's took 2nd place on flip of a coin

SECOND ROUND
First Leg
Wednesday, April 7

Series A	Universitario v Barcelona	2-1
Series B	Univ. Catolica v Nacional (Col)	2-0
Series C	Nacional (Uru) v Olimpia	1-2
Series D	Flamengo v Minerven	8-2
Series E	Cerro Porteno v Cobreloa	1-1
Series F	Nacional (Ecu) v Sporting Cristal	3-0
Series G	America v Bolivar	2-1
Series H	Newell's OB v Sao Paulo (Bra)	2-0

Second Leg
Wednesday, April 14

Series A	Barcelona v Universitario	3-0
	Barcelona won 4-0 on agg	
Series B	Nacional (Col) v Univ. Catolica	2-1
	Univ. Catolica won 3-2 on agg	
Series C	Olimpia v Nacional (Uru)	3-0
	Olimpia won 5-1 on agg	
Series D	Minerven v Flamengo	0-1
	Flamengo won 9-2 on agg	
Series E	Cobreloa v Cerro Porteno	0-2
	Cerro Porteno won 3-1 on agg	
Series F	Sporting Cristal v Nacional (Ecu)	4-0
	Sporting won 4-3 on agg	
Series G	Bolivar v America	1-1
	America won 3-2 on agg	
Series H	Sao Paulo (Bra) v Newell's OB	4-0
	Sao Paulo won 4-2 on agg	

QUARTER-FINALS
First Leg
Wednesday April 21

Series I	Flamengo v Sao Paulo	1-1
Series II	Olimpia v Cerro Porteno	1-1
Series III	Univ. Catolica v Barcelona	3-1
Series IV	America v Sporting Cristal	2-2

Second Leg
Wednesday April 28

Series I	Sao Paulo v Flamengo	2-0
	Sao Paulo won 3-2 on agg	
Series II	Cerro Porteno v Olimpia	0-0
	Agg: 1-1, Cerro won 4-2 on pens	
Series III	Barcelona v Univ. Catolica	0-1
	Univ. Catolica won 3-1 on agg	
Series IV	Sporting Cristal v America	2-3
	America won 5-4 on agg	

SEMI-FINALS
First Leg

05.05.93	Sao Paulo v Cerro Porteno
05.05.93	Univ. Catolica v America

Second Leg

12.05.93	Cerro Porteno v Sao Paulo
12.05.93	America v Univ. Catolica

FINAL
First Leg — Wednesday May 19

Second Leg — Wednesday May 26

1994 AFRICAN NATIONS' CUP

Hosts: Tunisia.
Holders: Ivory Coast.
Both qualify automatically.

PRELIMINARY ROUND

14.06.92	Lesotho v Botswana	0-0
14.06.92	Guinea Bissau v Cape Verde	3-1
28.06.92	Botswana v Lesotho	0-4
	Lesotho won 4-0 on agg	
28.06.92	Cape Verde v Guinea Bissau	0-1
	Guinea Bissau won 4-1 on agg	

GROUP 1
(Winners qualify)

16.08.92	Gabon v Cameroon	0-0
16.08.92	Benin v Niger	1-2
30.08.92	Cameroon v Benin	2-0
30.08.92	Niger v Gabon	1-3
03.04.93	Niger v Benin	2-2
11.04.93	Gabon v Benin	2-0
11.04.93	Niger v Cameroon	0-0
25.04.93	Cameroon v Gabon	0-0
11.07.93	Benin v Cameroon	
11.07.93	Gabon v Niger	
25.07.93	Benin v Gabon	
25.07.93	Cameroon v Niger	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Gabon	4	2	2	0	5	1	6
Cameroon	4	1	3	0	2	0	5
Niger	4	1	2	1	5	6	4
Benin	4	0	1	3	3	8	1

GROUP 2
(Winners qualify)

15.08.92	Uganda v Ethiopia	3-1
16.08.92	Sudan v Nigeria	0-0
29.08.92	Nigeria v Uganda	2-0
29.08.92	Ethiopia v Sudan	3-0
11.04.93	Sudan v Uganda	1-1
12.04.93	Ethiopia v Nigeria	1-0
24.04.93	Ethiopia v Uganda	2-2
24.04.93	Nigeria v Sudan	4-0
10.07.93	Uganda v Nigeria	
11.07.93	Sudan v Ethiopia	
24.07.93	Uganda v Sudan	
24.07.93	Nigeria v Ethiopia	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nigeria	4	2	1	1	6	1	5
Ethiopia	4	2	1	1	7	5	5
Uganda	4	1	2	1	6	6	4
Sudan	4	0	2	2	1	8	2

GROUP 3
(Top two qualify)

16.08.92	Algeria v Guinea Bissau	3-1
16.08.92	Senegal v Togo	2-0
29.08.92	Sierra Leone v Algeria	1-0
30.08.92	Senegal v Guinea Bissau	3-0
03.10.92	Togo v Algeria	0-0
04.10.92	Guinea Bissau v Sierra Leone	0-3
08.11.92	Sierra Leone v Senegal	2-0
08.11.92	Togo v Guinea Bissau	0-0
09.01.93	Sierra Leone v Togo	0-0
10.01.93	Senegal v Algeria	1-2
24.01.93	Togo v Senegal	1-1
24.01.93	Guinea Bissau v Algeria	1-4
09.04.93	Algeria v Sierra Leone	0-0
11.04.93	Guinea Bissau v Senegal	0-3
23.04.93	Algeria v Togo	4-0
25.04.93	Sierra Leone v Guinea Bissau	2-0
11.07.93	Senegal v Sierra Leone	
11.07.93	Guinea Bissau v Togo	
24.07.93	Togo v Sierra Leone	
25.07.93	Algeria v Senegal	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Algeria	7	4	2	1	13	4	10
Sierra Leone	6	4	2	0	8	0	10
Togo	6	0	4	2	1	7	4
Guinea Bissau	7	0	1	6	2	16	1

GROUP 4
(Winners qualify)

16.08.92	Zaire v Mozambique	2-0
16.08.92	Lesotho v Kenya	2-2
29.08.92	Kenya v Zaire	1-3
30.08.92	Mozambique v Lesotho	3-0
11.04.93	Mozambique v Kenya	0-0
12.04.93	Lesotho v Zaire	1-1
24.04.93	Kenya v Lesotho	3-0
25.04.93	Mozambique v Zaire	0-0
11.07.93	Zaire v Kenya	
11.07.93	Lesotho v Mozambique	
24.07.93	Kenya v Mozambique	
25.07.93	Zaire v Lesotho	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Zaire	4	2	2	0	6	2	6
Kenya	4	1	2	1	6	5	4
Mozambique	4	1	2	1	3	2	4
Lesotho	4	0	2	2	3	9	2

GROUP 5
(Winners qualify)

16.08.92	Zambia v Mauritius	2-1
16.08.92	Zimbabwe v South Africa	4-1
30.08.92	Mauritius v Zimbabwe	0-1
30.08.92	South Africa v Zambia	0-1
10.04.93	South Africa v Mauritius	0-0
10.04.93	Zambia v Zimbabwe	0-0
24.04.93	South Africa v Zimbabwe	1-1
25.04.93	Mauritius v Zambia	0-3
11.07.93	Zimbabwe v Mauritius	
11.07.93	Zambia v South Africa	
25.07.93	Zimbabwe v Zambia	
25.07.93	Mauritius v South Africa	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Zambia	4	3	1	0	6	1	7
Zimbabwe	4	2	2	0	6	2	6
South Africa	4	0	2	2	2	6	2
Mauritius	4	0	1	3	1	6	1

GROUP 6
(Winners qualify)

16.08.92	Burundi v Congo	1-0
30.08.92	Guinea v Burundi	2-2
11.04.93	Guinea v Congo	1-0
25.04.93	Congo v Burundi	0-0
11.07.93	Burundi v Guinea	
25.07.93	Congo v Guinea	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Burundi	3	1	2	0	3	2	4
Guinea	2	1	1	0	3	2	3
Congo	3	0	1	2	0	2	1

★ *Chad withdrew*

GROUP 7
(Winners qualify)

10.04.93	Ghana v Liberia	1-0
25.07.93	Liberia v Ghana	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ghana	1	1	0	0	1	0	2
Liberia	1	0	0	1	0	1	0

★ *Tanzania and Burkina Faso withdrew.*

GROUP 8
(Top two qualify)

15.08.92	Malawi v Egypt	1-0
29.08.92	Malawi v Mali	1-1
04.10.92	Mali v Morocco	2-1
08.11.92	Morocco v Egypt	0-0
10.04.93	Egypt v Mali	2-1
11.04.93	Morocco v Malawi	0-1
23.04.93	Egypt v Malawi	2-0
25.04.93	Morocco v Mali	1-0
09.07.93	Egypt v Morocco	
11.07.93	Mali v Malawi	
24.07.93	Malawi v Morocco	
25.07.93	Mali v Egypt	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Egypt	4	2	1	1	4	2	5
Malawi	4	2	1	1	3	3	5
Mali	4	1	1	2	4	5	3
Morocco	4	1	1	2	2	3	3

★ *Mauritania and Libya withdrew.*

One way to cut the wage bill

FOOTBALL intimately reflects its times and its society. So if Italian society is coming apart, if the establishment is being rent by scandals, if rich businessmen and crooked politicians are going to the wall, can Italian football be far behind?

Many a long year ago, Vittorio Pozzo a man of stury integrity, hit the nail on the head. Pozzo learned about football as a young tecacher in England, returning to Italy to take over the national team.

He was in charge at the Olympic tournament of 1912, withdrew, took over again, and stayed for over 20 years, winning the World Cup in 1934 and 1938.

After the Second World War, Pozzo wrote: "A new breed of director moved into Italian football, men who had got rich quickly, often in obscure ways. They were very different from the pre-war directors, sober and dedicated, who put their clubs first and did not think money was paramount."

The older breed of director lived and worked at a time when all Italy was poisoned by Mussolini's regime. But Pozzo might well have been thinking of someone like Aldo Buticchi, once president of Milan. Buticchi made his pile during the war out of contraband cigarettes, so much so that they were known in Genoa as "Buticchi".

What a gallery of reprobates there was as presidents of Milan! For example the fair-headed Riva, whose street-sweeper father married the daughter of a wealthy industrialist, who made him rich. The son's factories eventually went bankrupt in a major scandal, and president Riva fled.

Then there was president Colombo, who successfully bribed the Lazio team to lose a game at San Siro — though why it should have been necessary to bribe Lazio remains a mystery. Colombo sent the money to the two fixers in Rome, still wrapped in the paper which bore the marks of his bank. Milan were relegated . . . but Colombo remained for some time as a force in the background.

Then came Farina, the flamboyant figure who built then ruined Lanerossi Vicenza. He got the brilliantly gifted Paulo Rossi (right) from Juventus, but it all ended unher Milan but there too he left a trail of disaster. Eventually, beset by problems over tax and failing ventures, he took off for South Africa.

And now we have Silvio Berlusconi, the man whi has bought so many foreigneres when he can use only three at a time, the man who despises and resents international football, a aproperty millionaire who has become a TV and print tycoon.

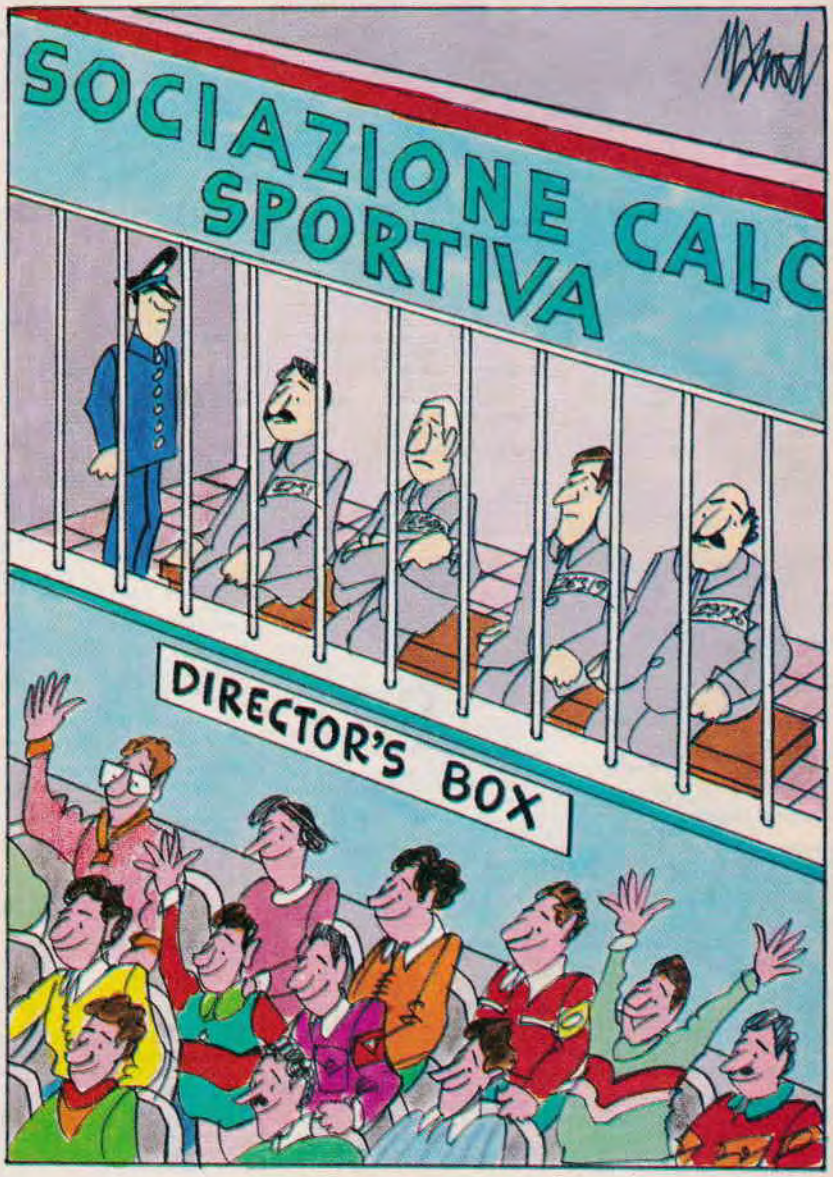
Berlusconi's colossal wealth has left even mighty Juventus, backed by Gianni Agnelli's FIAT money, in the shade. Nor has the lightest breath of suspicion, at the time of writing, touched Berlusconi's spotless reputation. An achievement indeed, given that Milan itself has been the fulcrum of the investigations which have tumed the country upside down.

Mind you, Berlusconi is getting flak from the fans . . . ice hockey fans. He has just bought a club, who were involved in the final of the Italian championship, against Bolzano. On the night, the Milanese fans cheered for Bolzano and sang a fetching little ditty: "The dream of our heart is Berlusconi to San Vittore" — San Vittore being the Milanese equivalent to Regina Coeli, a jail where dozens of alleged crooks have of late been existing in sharp discomfort.

Now that Italian commercial life is being cleaned up, now that crooked fortunes can no longer so easily be made, where does that leave the Italian football clubs?

By something of an irony, Italian federation president Antonio Mattarese has been trying, Canute-like, to persuade clubs to cut down their wage bills.

Now they may find that they have no alternative. Pozzo would be pleased.



Ironic, Capello

LAST month, I wrote about Fabio Capello, the Milan manager, and his complaints about "passive offside."

The ironic thing is that if such a law did not exist, Capello would not have been able to score the most famous goal of his career; the one which beat England at Wembley in 1973, to give Italy their first ever victory on English soil against us, after some 40 years of trying.

What happened was that Giorgio Chinaglia — another irony here, since he learned to play in Wales — beat Bobby Moore along the right-hand goal-line and pulled the ball back into the goalmouth. There it was an easy task for Capello to score. But had the referee assiduously applied the offside law, as certain English refs did at that time, it would have been no goal.

Let me explain. A match I saw at Stamford Bridge between Chelsea and Wolves had Steve Daley — later to become the vastly over priced "capture" by Malcolm Allison for Manchester City — pull back the ball from the right-hand goal-line, somewhat as Chinaglia did.

Again, a goal resulted, but the referee ruled it out.

Why? The only possible, if utterly daft, explanation had to be that having delivered the ball, Daley was technically in an offside position!

If "passive offside" had not existed, then so would Capello have been offside.

As it is, to deem that Daley was "interfering with play or seeking to gain an advantage" was plainly quite absurd.

Hell hath no fury . . .

SHOCK, terror! I have been threatened by the Queen of the Amazons, Michelle Akers-Stahl (right), ex centre-forward and inspiration of the American women's soccer team.

In a US publiciation she writes chillingly of wanting to thunder into me on the football field, after my remarks about the female game.

At 5ft 11in — her own height — and a mere 13.5 stones I can only pray that she never joins in our Thursday "pickup" game in Holland Park, nor plays against my Sunday team Chelsea Casuals.

Meanwhile it seems that Oscar Wilde was right. Football is, indeed, "a game for rough girls."

Sweet enough now, Adams

THE "Hee-haw" choruses initiated by Liverpool fans, at the expense of Arsenal's Tony Adams, have never seemed remotely fair, any more than they are acceptable.

But Adams might take consolation, quite apart from his various successes with club and sporadically, country, in G.K. Chesterton's poem about the donkey: "The devil's walking parody on all four footed things."

"Fools," the poem goes on, "for I also had my hour, one full fierce hour and sweet."

In Adams's case, it tends to be, on the happier occasions, a full, fierce hour and a half, though he remains bizarrely accident prone.

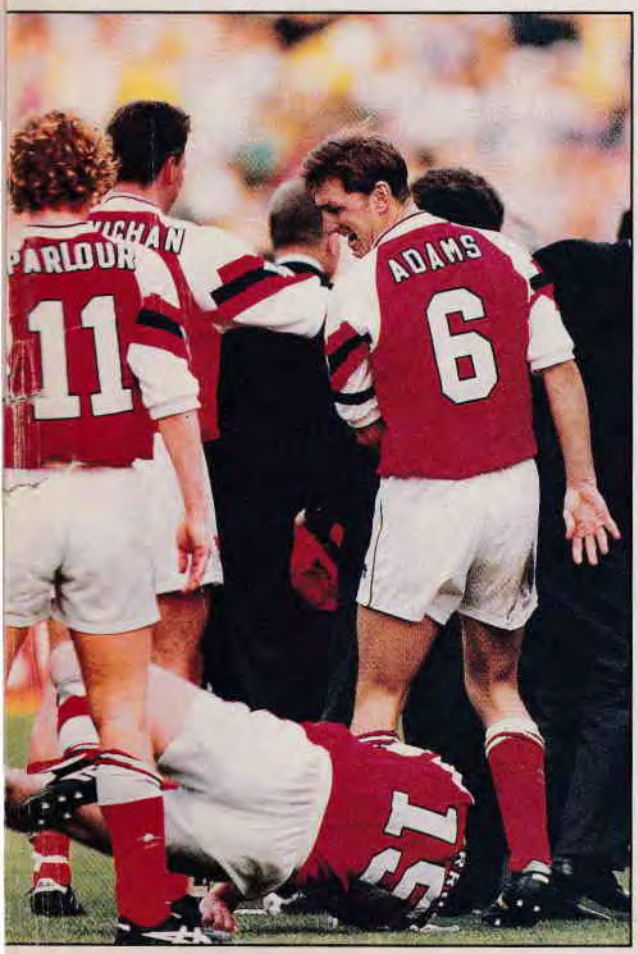
Having headed the goal which beat Spurs at Wembley and took Arsenal into the FA Cup Final, having dominated in defence against Sheffield Wednesday on the same historic ground, in the Final of the League Cup, Adams proceeded to pick up Steve Morrow, the Gunners' scorer, and drop him over his head.

Result: Morrow in hospital for the insertion of a steel plate in a broken arm, and out of both Arsenal's and Northern Ireland's team for the rest of the season. If he'd emitted a smothered "hee haw," you could hardly have blamed him.

Then, of course, there was the case of Adams's 29 — count them — 29 stitches, and the little matter of the prison sentence for driving while over the alcohol limit.

Perhaps Arsenal should follow the example of Bologna, who told their players they must be in bed by a certain hour.

The night (or small hours of the morning) Adams fell down them stairs, it would have been 11 p.m.



The man who fell to earth . . . Morrow falls from Adams's shoulders and crashes to the ground.

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